NEW YEAR, NEW NELLY

CANADIAN SONGBIRD HEADLINING NEW YEAR'S BASH BEFORE LAUNCHING A NEW TOUR IN VICTORIA PAGE 26

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FAMILY'S FINAL SALUTE

RCMP Const. Ben Oliver wipes away a tear during a regimental funeral for his twin brother, Const. Adrian Oliver, as his father, RCMP Chief Supt. Joe Oliver, looks on in Langley on Monday. Adrian Oliver died Nov. 13 after his unmarked police cruiser collided with a transport truck in Surrey. Story, page 4. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legalizing pot could generate billions: Study

Report based on the principle that the best model for regulation is a government monopoly PAGE 3

Putting the ohhh in ocean

Life of Pi joins a long list of movies inspired by the terrifying power of the sea PAGE 21

Sex, lies and Sesame Street

The man behind Elmo has stepped down amid a new underage-sex accusation PAGE 12

Disney cruise ship works its magic

Visit Turkey and Italy on a family-oriented trip PAGE 29

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Declining resources

MusicFest Vancouver suspends 2013 event over money woes

MusicFest Vancouver's annual 10-day summer concert series has been suspended due to money troubles.

The event hasn't been cancelled forever, but the board needs to solve its financial difficulties and climb out of about $150,000 in debt before it resumes operations, board member Sarah Sidhu said Tuesday.

"We're not in a position to go on with the 2013 festival," Sidhu said. "We're just looking at how we can deal with all of our debts and how we can move forward in a healthy way."

The festival is funded by corporate sponsorships, private donations and money from all three levels of government. In 2012, budgeted revenue was $1.2 million, with $242,000 of that coming from the public sector, Sidhu said.

But these sources have declined over the past two years, she said, and not enough people bought concert tickets in 2012 to make up for the declining support.

One full-time employee has been laid off and contracts for other workers have not been renewed, she added. Some of the artists have not been paid.

The volunteer board members will continue to seek advice on how to revitalize the festival and operate it in a viable way, Sidhu said.

"We don't want to be another casualty on the arts scene," she said.

MusicFest held more than 650 free and ticketed classical, jazz and world music events in its 12 years operating. The festival paid B.C. artists more than $2 million.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Two grams of Silver Haze cannabis sits on a menu in a coffee shop on Nov. 1 in Amsterdam. A new study suggests that legalizing marijuana could result in more than $2.5 billion in tax and licensing revenues over five years. JASPER JUINEN/GETTY IMAGES

Pot legalization could generate $2.5B: Study

Thinking green.
Research shows regulation would channel significant revenue away from organized crime

KATE WEBB
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A new study has found B.C. could reap $2.5 billion in tax and licensing revenues over five years if the federal government were to legalize marijuana.

The report was published last week in the peer-reviewed International Journal of Drug Policy. Researchers from SFU and UBC looked at domestic cannabis-consumption trends using provincial surveillance data, and found the market could be worth more than $500 million per year.

Dr. Evan Wood, who is the senior author of the study and also the Canada Research Chair of Inner City Medicine at UBC, said he launched the study after being repeatedly challenged by reporters about potential revenues from legalization.

"There has been a sense that the majority of the cannabis industry in B.C. is for export and that has borne true by this study," Wood conceded. "But it does certainly show the fairly substantial tax revenue that could obviously be channelled away from organized crime and toward governments."

Wood said the study was based on the harm-reduction principle that the best model for regulation is a government-run monopoly, rather than a corporate free-for-all, and the cost of production could be completely offset by licensing fees.

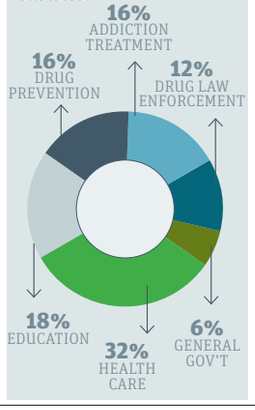
Former B.C. premier and attorney general Ujjal Dosanjh has thrown his support behind Wood's Stop the Violence BC campaign for marijuana regulation and taxation, arguing prohibition has failed and political leaders need to "wake up."

"Our jails are bursting at the seams, our police are overworked and under-resourced, and the study says that in 2009 there were over 200 drive-by shootings," he said.

"How much policing time does it take to investigate those? Just imagine that ... police could be doing something different and something better."

Potential tax revenue

An Angus Reid poll asked B.C. residents how they would like funds derived from cannabis-tax revenue allocated.



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Following a solemn procession, a sea of red-coated RCMP members filled the Langley Events Centre Tuesday for a regimental funeral for Const. Adrian Oliver. Oliver died Nov. 13 after his unmarked police cruiser collided with a transport truck in Surrey. Also attending were politicians from all three levels of government and representatives from American and Australian police forces.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 Pallbearers carry the casket of RCMP Const. Adrian Oliver during a regimental funeral at the Langley Events Centre on Monday.

2 RCMP Const. Adrian Oliver's stetson is carried into the funeral.

Officer killed in crash gets one last farewell

3 RCMP Const. Ben Oliver, twin brother of late RCMP Const. Adrian Oliver, is comforted by his stepfather, RCMP Chief Supt. Joe Oliver, during the funeral.

4 RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson told the funeral Oliver embodied the values the RCMP holds dear, saying Oliver was a compassionate man who became a compassionate and caring police officer.

5 Oliver's wife, RCMP Const. Shelagh Mitchell, briefly addressed the gathering. "Adrian, your kindness inspires me to be a better person. Your goofiness reminds me to stay a kid at heart," she said, choking back tears.

The twin brother of a Mountie killed in a car crash near Vancouver told a regimental funeral Tuesday he can only hope to be the officer and the man that his "better half" became.

Const. Ben Oliver's voice was tight with emotion as he explained he and his brother Adrian were most of the way toward their childhood dream of becoming Mounties together and living in houses across the street from each other.

As kids, he said, "we threw other ideas around, like maybe we'd live in the same house or we'd live beside each other. But we decided we'd want our own privacy, so across the street would be just enough."

Six months ago, Oliver said he moved in next to his brother and his brother's spouse, allowing him to spend every day with them.

"In 28 years of life, Adrian and I have only been apart for 12 months. It was always difficult for me to be away from him, but I never really missed him."

Const. Adrian Oliver, an officer with the Surrey detachment, was killed last week when his unmarked cruiser was struck by a transport truck.

Chief Supt. Andrew Boland, a friend of the family who watched the twins grow up, told the funeral Ben and Adrian were born in Williams Lake, B.C. Their father Joe's career with the RCMP would take them to New Brunswick and eventually to Ottawa, the city they came to call home.

Boland said he saw a picture recently of the twins as children dressed as Batman and Superman, foreshadowing their careers as adults, caring for people.

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A GREAT DIVIDE ON JUMBO RESORT

MATT KIELTYKA
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A controversial proposed year-round ski resort near Invermere now has a mayor and council, despite the fact there isn't a soul in Jumbo, B.C.

The provincial government announced Tuesday they have approved the incorporation of Jumbo — a proposed resort village in the East Kootenay region — as a mountain-resort municipality.

The move comes after years of political wrangling (the resort was first proposed in 1991) and the approval of Jumbo Glacier Resort's master development agreement in March.

"This will give the community a chance to heal from this 22-year controversy and move on," said Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Bill Bennett. "It's the right thing to do for British Columbia and the East Kootenays. There is no time like the present to do the right thing."

NDP critic Norm MacDonald slammed the move as political sabotage.

"The reason this has taken 22 years is that (the resort) has never had local support," said MacDonald. "They've been sitting on it since (Gordon) Campbell's time because there has been no support or money. They've just made a complicated mess for the next government to clean up."

MacDonald is skeptical the year-round, $450-million resort — 250 kilometres west of Calgary — will ever come to fruition.

"What is key to understand is that there is no money behind this project and there hasn't been for a decade," he asserted.

He said an NDP government, if elected next year, would "represent the views of local people and First Nations" and kill the project.

Grant Costello, vice-president of proponent Glacier Resorts Ltd., shot back at MacDonald's claims.

"The money will be there when we need it. We have a lot of desire," said Costello. "It will create jobs, which is especially needed by a community that has been hit hard by the recession."

The master development agreement and now municipal status lets Glacier Resorts Ltd. lay the groundwork for development and approach investors, he said.

"There have always been a lot of investors on the doorstep, but we haven't been able to give them anything concrete," said Costello. "We've been in suspended animation until two days ago (when the government notified them of the announcement)."

Glacier Resorts Ltd. has an agreement signed with a local Shuswap Indian Band to go forward with the project, but the Ktunaxa Nation has been fiercely opposed on "spiritual" and "ecological" grounds.

On Tuesday, the Ktunaxa Nation Council said the government's decision shows disdain for their spiritual beliefs and culture.

"We're not opposed to people going in and using the area, people have been doing that for years," said nation chair Kathryn Teneese. "Our concern is having permanent structures going there. The changes to our permanent territory are unnecessary, and there's already a ski resort up the road that's had issues attracting visitors."

Since no one currently lives in the new municipality (which hopes to one day have 5,500 bed-units in a 104-hectare resort village), the government has appointed former Regional District of East Kootenay chair Greg Deck as mayor, and named Nancy Hugunin and Stephan Ostrander as councillors.

The province will also provide approximately $200,000 to incorporate the resort municipality.

Robyn Duncan, spokeswoman for the environment group Wildsight, said the province's decision to incorporate the area doesn't make sense.

"It puts into question the whole democratic process when we can have a hand-picked council govern a newly created municipality that has no population and no infrastructure," she said.

Environmentalists fear the development could severely impact grizzly-bear populations in the Purcell Mountains.

The government expects a mayor and council to be democratically elected once people take up residence at the resort.

Deck's term is scheduled to end Nov. 20, 2014.

Costello hopes to have the area's first ski lift operational by December 2014, and then start building the infrastructure required for a village.

The Ktunaxa Nation Council intends to launch a legal challenge of the master development agreement on Nov. 30.

Glacier Resorts Ltd. have already obtained an Environmental Assessment Certificate for the project.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

Plans for Jumbo Glacier Resort:

- **Season:** Year-round
- **Skiable terrain:** 5,925 hectares, with the longest vertical drops in North America
- **Number of lifts:** 20-23
- **Number of accessible glaciers:** 4
- **Development area at base:** 104 hectares
- **Total bed units for visitors:** 5,501

- **Total bed units for staff:** 750
- **Phasing:** 20–30-year development period in three phases

Source: Glacier Resorts Ltd.

Keep Jumbo Wild

Campaign against resort

Wildsight's campaign against the Jumbo Glacier Resort has recruited a number of elite and high profile athletes to their cause. They argue the development is tied to melting glaciers, is in the middle of a critically important grizzly bear range and would require road development in avalanche-prone terrain.

Supporters of the Keep Jumbo Wild campaign: Beckie Scott, Olympic gold-medal Nordic skier; Scott Niedermayer, Olympic gold-medal hockey player and NHL legend; Jon Montgomery, 2010 Olympic skeleton gold-medal winner; Emily Brydon, three-time alpine skiing Olympian; Sara Renner, 2006 Olympics silver medallist in Nordic skiing; Josh Dueck, sit-ski slalom silver medallist in 2010 Paralympics; Thomas Grandi, 2004 World Cup gold-medal alpine skier; Doug Anakin, 1964 Olympic bobsled gold medallist; Krisitn Groves, four speedskating silver medals in 2006 and 2010 Olympics. **METRO**

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Road death. Court upholds drunk-driving conviction

A B.C. woman who appealed a drunk-driving conviction involving the death of a four-year-old Delta girl in May 2008 has lost her bid to stay out of prison.

Carol-Ann Berner was found guilty after Alexa Middelaer was killed and her aunt was severely injured when they were run down by a car while feeding a horse on a rural road.

In November 2010, Berner was sentenced to two and a half years in prison and banned from driving for five years, but appealed. In its decision issued Tuesday, the B.C. Court of Appeal said the trial judge considered the results of Berner's breathalyzer tests and the expert evidence of the RCMP's forensic alcohol specialist in ruling the woman's ability to drive was impaired by alcohol.

Berner appealed on several grounds, including that the Insurance Corp. of B.C. disposed of her car before she was charged and the police's accident reconstructionist made errors in measuring and analysis.

The trial heard undercover officers befriended Berner during a two-month sting and that she admitted to lying to police about drinking two glasses of wine, not three, and said she may have stepped on the gas pedal instead of the brake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Affidavit. English and experience were job requirements for coal mine

The company that hired temporary foreign workers from China for its northern B.C. coal mine says it made a comprehensive effort to recruit qualified Canadian workers.

In an affidavit filed in Federal Court, an HD Mining official says the jobs were posted over three months in nine different newspapers and job banks.

And contrary to claims, Michael Xiao says the company offered full benefits and did not require Mandarin.

The only requirements were for English and between three and five years of experience, says the affidavit.

Two unions are asking the Federal Court to review the decision to grant Temporary Foreign Worker permits for the Murrary River underground coal mine.

The parties will return to court this afternoon when a decision is expected on whether the case will proceed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Surrey hospital flood

Emergency room to remain closed

One of the busiest emergency departments in B.C. will be closed for at least two weeks as crews repair damage from a flood caused by a construction accident on Monday. A temporary urgent-care centre has been set up at Surrey Memorial Hospital. THE CANADIAN PRESS

New Westminster

Man shot by cops outside casino ID'd

The B.C. Coroners Service says a man shot by police after an armed standoff outside a Metro Vancouver casino two weeks ago was a 48-year-old Richmond resident. Mehrdad Bayrami was shot at the Starlight Casino Nov. 8 and died in hospital Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson enjoys greens produced at Local Garden, the city's first vertical urban farm. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Vertical farm opens in parkade

Local Garden. North America's first vertical urban farm harvests its first commercial crop

EMILY JACKSON
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Locavores, look no further than the 10th floor of a downtown parkade for homegrown, leafy greens.

The first vertical urban farm in Vancouver — and in North America — on Tuesday harvested its first commercial crop of greens — kale, spinach, arugula and fresh herbs — from the rooftop of the Richard Street EasyPark.

The clean-tech farm is green and innovative, creates local jobs and occupies unused space, making it a "win-win" for Vancouver, Mayor Gregor Robertson said at the event.

Vancouver-based Alterrus Systems Inc. leased the underused parking space from the city at market rates and built the greenhouse with its own cash. The $2-million, 6,000-square-foot Local Garden will employ between four to six people from Downtown Eastside organization Mission Possible.

The original VertiCrop system at the U.K.'s Paignton Zoo grows produce to feed animals, but this is Alterrus' first attempt to sell to commercial markets.

It expects to produce 150,000 pounds of produce annually. The crops take about 20 days to grow and are rotated through the conveyor system to get maximum light exposure.

While the greens will be sold to those who can afford them, Alterrus is looking at opportunities to pay part of its lease fees in produce to contribute healthy food to city organizations, strategic advisor Donovan Wollard said.

Local restaurants and grocery stores such as Fable, Hawksworth, Spud.ca and Urban Fare want to buy the greens rather than ship perishable items from as far as 2,000 kilometres away.

Chef Trevor Bird, owner of Fable, plans to purchase mostly from Local Garden, as he can pick it up on his way to work.

"It's just about knowing where the source of your food is and who grows it," he said. "It does taste incredible — it's pretty hard to argue with that."

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Children battling cancer get the royal hair treatment

Clara Howorth, left, and her brother Brennan pose Tuesday at the PNE for a photo with Disney's newest princess, Rapunzel, from the movie Tangled.
PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Balding for Dollars.
PNE event celebrates hair donations that go to making wigs for cancer victims

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Christine Tulloch and Clara Howorth know what it feels like to get locks of love from strangers.

Tulloch, now 25, was diagnosed with leukemia when she was 19 and losing her hair following chemotherapy treatment brought her spirits down.

"I loved doing things with my friends and I wanted to be that outgoing girl, but I couldn't because I felt so ugly because of the cancer," she said Tuesday. "But having my wig, it was a perfect escape. I felt like I could be a normal teenager."

Mom Andrea Howorth said Clara, 5, who was diagnosed with leukemia this past February, feels like a princess when she puts on the wig that the BC Children's Hospital Foundation's Balding for Dollars program provided them.

"We are very grateful," Howorth said. "My daughter's confidence couldn't be as strong as it is if she didn't have the support of the people donating."

Donors and families of the recipients gathered at the PNE to celebrate hair donations at an event sponsored by Disney On Ice producers Feld Entertainment and Hype Hair Studio.

Maria Paredes, whose four-year-old daughter Aubrey donated 12 inches of hair, said it was great to see the smiles of the children and to hear the stories of cancer survivors.

"We haven't cut Aubrey's hair since she was born. It was the perfect timing and we wanted to donate it for a good cause," she added.

Suzanne Dunbar, with Balding for Dollars, said the hairpieces cost around $2,000 and the program helps alleviate the financial burden on families. The fitted hairpieces require 20 ponytails and are handmade in 40 to 60 hours.

Each person who donated hair to the campaign received a free family four-pack of tickets to the show Disney On Ice presents Dare to Dream, which runs Wednesday to Sunday at the Pacific Coliseum.

Musicians go loopy in bid to become best in Canada

Three Canadians will go head-to-head in Vancouver this weekend to find out who has the best looping skills in the country.

Port Coquitlam's Chelsea Laing will be up against Hamilton, Ont.'s Jacob Moon and Quebec's Jonathan Rosner for a chance to represent Canada at the Boss Loop Station World Championship International Finals in Los Angeles in January.

The three semifinalists were chosen after submitting a live performance video using any Boss RC-Series loop station, a tool that can record a section of sound played on an instrument and play back that section over and over.

Laing, who took a year off from her studies at the University of B.C. to pursue music, said that just being in the top three is a dream come true.

"When I got the news I went nuts," she said. "I was jumping around the porch. Going up against two professional musicians, I feel honoured and flattered to be grouped with them."

She hopes that her original song Chains — about a forbidden romance in the Cajun heat during the 18th century — can win over the judges.

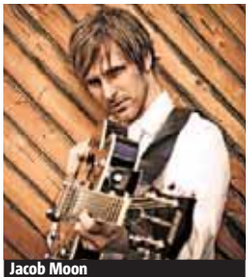
"If I win first place, it would be completely out of my mental capacity," Laing said.

Moon wrote and performed a song called Everything that Goes Around, which was inspired by the loop pedal itself.

He said he can't wait to see who he's up against at the competition, which will take place at the Vancouver Guitar Show at the Croatian Cultural Centre on Sunday at 3 p.m.

"They're both talented and creative, so I am looking forward to hearing what they will bring to the competition," he said. "And then I will destroy them with my awesome licks."

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO



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In this January 2011 photo, Elmo puppeteer Kevin Clash poses with the Sesame Street Muppet in the Fender Music Lodge during the 2011 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. VICTORIA WILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Elmo puppeteer resigns amid sex allegations

Kevin Clash. The man who created the iconic red furry puppet steps down as new underage-sex accusations surface

Elmo puppeteer Kevin Clash resigned from Sesame Street on Tuesday amid allegations he sexually abused underage boys, bringing an end to a 28-year career in which he turned the furry red monster into one of the most beloved — and lucrative — characters on TV and in toy stores.

Quoted

"Elmo is bigger than any one person."

A Sesame Workshop statement explaining last week that Elmo is not defined by one person and others have been trained as Clash's stand-in. It remains unclear who will take over the role now.

"Personal matters have diverted attention away from the important work Sesame Street is doing, and I cannot allow it to go on any longer," the 52-year-old performer said in a statement.

"I am deeply sorry to be leaving and am looking forward to resolving these personal matters privately."

His departure came as a 24-year-old college student, Cecil Singleton, sued Clash for more than $5 million Tuesday, accusing the actor of engaging in sexual behaviour with him when he was 15. Singleton charged that Clash made a habit of trolling gay chat lines for underage boys and meeting them for sex.

It was the second such allegation in just over a week. On Nov. 12, a man in his 20s said he had sex with Clash at age 16. A day later, though, the young man recanted, saying their relationship was adult and consensual. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sweden

Woman charged with necrophilia

A woman in Sweden has been accused of necrophilia after investigators found some 100 skeleton parts in her apartment.

The Swedish news agency TT cites prosecutor Kristina Ehrenborg-Staffas as saying that the 37-year-old woman is suspected of using the remains, which included six skulls and one backbone, in "sexual situations."

The woman, from southwestern Sweden, was charged with "violating the peace of the deceased" in Goteborg District Court on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Murder. McAfee blogs about watching police search for him in Belize

Software company founder John McAfee says he's hiding in plain sight, wearing a disguise as he watches police and reporters stake out his home — and blogging about it all.

In the latest twist in the highly publicized case, McAfee has started his own blog, in which he describes life on the lam after police in Belize called him a "person of interest" in the slaying of fellow American Gregory Viant Faull and asked him to turn himself in for questioning.

In phone interviews with The Associated Press, McAfee has never said where he's hiding. But in his blog this week, he claims to have disguised himself as a grungy street peddler and a foul-mouthed German tourist and claims he approached an Associated Press reporter outside his staked-out home on the Caribbean island of Ambergris Caye and almost sold the reporter a wood carving.

It's hard to separate fact from fiction in the whole account, but one thing is clear — seldom has there been more detailed coverage of someone on the lam since O.J. Simpson led police on a low-speed chase in 1994.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saskatchewan. Province loosens liquor laws, but won't go the full monty

Saskatchewan is offering new liquor laws that peel back a long-held prohibition against bars serving booze at stripteases, but the rules stop short of taking it all off.

The province announced more than 70 new liquor regulations Tuesday, including the move to allow alcohol to be served at striptease performances and wet clothing contests. But it won't allow full-frontal nudity and the sale of liquor to be mixed.

"Prohibition against full nudity is still going to be enforced in Saskatchewan, but we will allow some stripping, exotic dancing-type without full nudity in the province," said Donna Harpauer, minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority.

Saskatchewan is the only province that doesn't allow stripping and alcohol sales.

Harpauer said the new rule brings Saskatchewan in line with New Brunswick, where genitals must be covered for men and women and women must have some coverage of their breasts. Decorative nipple coverings, commonly known as pasties, are allowed under Saskatchewan's new rules.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lascivious legs and liquor have had a divided history in Saskatchewan, but new laws will allow the sale of alcohol alongside stripteases. GETTY IMAGES

Canucks favour relaxed pot laws

Puff popularity. New poll suggests that only a very small minority want tougher rules

Legalization in Colorado and Washington State has prompted a surge in the decades-old debate over marijuana laws. ED ANDRIESKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A new poll shows a clear majority of Canadians support loosening the country's marijuana laws, a stance that seems to be starkly out of sync with the federal government's current pot policy.

According to the poll, released Tuesday by Toronto's Forum Research, 65 per cent of Canadians favour either the legalization and taxation of the drug or decriminalizing it in small amounts.

"Very few want the law to be as it is," said Forum president Lorne Bozinoff, pointing out that 17 per cent believe Canada's current pot laws should remain, while 15 per cent want tougher rules.

"Public opinion has been ahead of government on this issue for a while."

Under the Conservatives, Ottawa has veered toward harsher penalties for marijuana, increasing potential prison time and imposing mandatory jail sentences for growing six or more weed plants.

These strategies have drawn criticism from scientists and organizations such as the Brazil-based Global Commission on Drug Policy, which in March called them "destructive, expensive and ineffective."

Recent developments in the U.S., where marijuana was legalized in Colorado and Washington State in election-day plebiscites, have brought attention to the issue in Canada.

"I think (the Conservatives) have a morally based belief model, which is not based on evidence," said Richard Mathias, a professor of public health at the University of British Columbia. "It is paternalism in the extreme."

Last week, Liberal leadership candidate Justin Trudeau came out in favour of decriminalization, while leaving the door open to legalization, should he ever come to power.

Tom Stamatakis, president of the Canadian Police Association, said the public is too hasty to favour relaxing weed laws.

"We don't have the tools and the training available to us now to ensure that people aren't driving cars, for example, or operating machinery, while they're impaired by marijuana," he said.

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The Gaza waiting game

Midnight — still no peace. All-day talks on a ceasefire drag on as Israel and Hamas trade blistering blows

A ceasefire between Israel and Hamas seemed a world away late Tuesday night.

After a day of furious diplomatic efforts involving the U.S. secretary of state, the United Nations chief and Egypt's president, an expected midnight peace deal remained elusive.

Meanwhile, the fighting raged on.

Israeli tanks and gunboats pummelled targets in Gaza, while at least 200 rockets were fired into Israel.

As talks dragged on near midnight, UN ambassadors announced the Security Council will hold an open debate on the Gaza crisis Wednesday afternoon if a ceasefire is not called before then.

Hillary Clinton, who raced to Israel, will shuttle to Cairo Wednesday, Torstar News Service reported.

Earlier in the day, optimism was rampant.

Egypt's President Mohammed Morsi predicted Israeli airstrikes would soon end.

And Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his country would be a "willing partner" to a ceasefire with the Islamic militant group.

A top Hamas official, too, said a pact was close — even as the relentless airstrikes and rocket attacks continued.

Israel demands an end to rocket fire from Gaza and a halt to weapons smuggling into Gaza through tunnels.

Hamas wants the Israelis to halt all their attacks on Gaza and lift the crippling restrictions on trade and movement in and out of the territory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deaths mount

The toll in the week-old Gaza campaign:

- **Palestinians.** More than 130 Palestinians, both militants and civilians have been killed in Gaza.
- **Israelis.** Four Israeli civilians and one soldier have been killed.

Their young world collapses: Children stand in the rubble left after an Israeli strike on a house in Gaza City on Tuesday. HATEM MOUSSA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Curbside justice

Suspected traitors shot on street

Masked gunmen publicly shot dead six suspected collaborators with Israel at a large Gaza City intersection Tuesday, witnesses said.

An Associated Press reporter saw a mob surrounding five of the bloodied corpses shortly after the killing.

Some in the crowd stomped and spat on the bodies.

A sixth corpse was tied to a motorcycle and dragged through the streets as the crowd of people screamed, "Spy! Spy!"

The Hamas military wing, Izzedine al-Qassam, claimed responsibility in a large handwritten note attached to a nearby electricity pole.

Hamas said the six were killed because they gave Israel information about fighters and rocket-launching sites. Hamas did not provide any proof of the alleged collaboration.

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Bye bye, Blighty? EU gets the jitters over possible pullout by fed-up Britain

Goodbye Britain?

For the European Union, a once-unthinkable question is looking more like a real possibility with each new grinding week of economic crisis.

Bad times are forcing the 17 EU nations that use the euro currency to move ever closer toward some kind of United States of Europe — one that could make decisions about how much member countries spend and how much tax they collect.

And that's a nightmare for Britain.

The British public shows no interest in moving closer to the rest of Europe, and most can't even seem to stomach the status quo.

After a 2015 election, Britain — among 10 of the 27 EU nations that don't use the euro — is likely to hold a referendum on whether to leave the EU.

Even if it doesn't hold a vote, the country is already unpicking its ties with Europe, a movement that has unsettled Germany, which is eager to retain the U.K. as an important economic driver of the bloc.

"I will ask the inhabitants of the wonderful island to reflect that they will not be happy if they are alone in this world," German Chancellor Angela Merkel said in a speech in London last week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Storm clouds

The prospect of a U.K. exit from the EU alarms some British leaders who see the bloc's free market as vital to their nation's prosperity.

- **Against:** Former prime minister Tony Blair has urged Britain not to pull away, but to help build a new structure to improve Europe. "It's a very tricky task," he says. "But it's an essential one if the U.K. is not to be sidelined."
- **Also against:** Peter Mandelson, the former European Union trade commissioner, warns that going it alone would mean a waning influence for the U.K. on the global stage. Britain, he says, soon could be a "Hong Kong to Europe's China or a Canada to Europe's United States."

2011 sets a record

A boom year for carbon dioxide

Carbon dioxide reached a record high level in the air in 2011, the United Nations weather agency said Tuesday.

Concentrations of the heat-trapping pollutant in the atmosphere averaged 390 parts per million during the year. That is up 40 per cent from before the Industrial Age, the World Meteorological Organization said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Troops on move

France pulls out of Afghanistan

France on Tuesday ended its combat operations in Afghanistan, pulling hundreds of troops from a base in a volatile region northeast of Kabul and fulfilling promises to end its combat role on a faster track than other NATO allies.

After a handover ceremony with Afghan troops, 500 French combat soldiers in trucks and armoured vehicles left the Nijrab base in the Kapisa region and travelled southwest to Kabul, the capital, said a French military spokesperson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dope-selling coffee shops still open to foreigners — for now

Amsterdam. Justice minister scraps the rollout of a program designed to keep tourists out of the pot-selling java joints

Dope-selling coffee shops in Amsterdam won't be shutting their doors to foreign visitors any time soon, a huge relief to the hundreds of thousands of tourists who enjoy a toke or two in the Dutch capital alongside their excursions on the canals and to the museums.

Amsterdam welcomed Tuesday changes in the national government's drug policies as a green light to let tourists keep rolling in to the city's 220 world famous cafés that sell cannabis, marijuana and pre-rolled joints alongside cups of coffee.

On Monday night, Justice Minister Ivo Opstelten sent a letter to Parliament announcing he was scrapping a nationwide rollout of the so-called "weed pass" that was designed to keep non-Dutch residents out of those coffee shops.

Beginning earlier this year in the south of the country, locals had to apply for a pass to get into such shops, but non-Dutch residents were barred to crack down on crime.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this April 2012 photo, a protester from Belgium with a marijuana leaf painted on his face smokes up in Amsterdam. PETER DEJONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. ballot measures

Pot possession should remain illegal: UN to U.S.

The head of the UN drug watchdog agency is urging U.S. federal officials to challenge ballot measures in Colorado and Washington that decriminalized possession of small amounts of marijuana for adults over 21.

Raymond Yans says the approvals send "a wrong message to the rest of the nation and it sends a wrong message abroad."

Yans heads the International Narcotics Control Board. He said on Tuesday he hopes the Attorney General will take all necessary measures to ensure that marijuana possession and use remains illegal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Francisco. Lawmakers approve nudity ban on streets, sidewalks, transit

San Francisco lawmakers have narrowly approved a proposal to ban public nakedness.

The 11-member Board of Supervisors voted 6-5 Tuesday on an ordinance that prohibits exposed genitals in most public places, including streets, sidewalks and public transit. A first offence carries a maximum penalty of a $100 US fine, but prosecutors have the authority to charge a third violation as a misdemeanour punishable by up to a $500 US fine and a year in jail.

Supervisor Scott Wiener introduced the measure in response to escalating complaints about a group of men whose lack of clothing was an almost daily occurrence in the city's predominantly gay world-famous Castro District.

A federal lawsuit seeking to block the ban was filed ahead of Tuesday's vote.

The municipal politicians rejected arguments that the measure would eat away at a reputation for tolerance enjoyed by a city known for flouting convention and flaunting its counter-culture image.

Wiener's opponents on the board said a ban would draw the attention of cops away from more critical problems. "The Castro, and San Francisco in general, is a place of freedom, expression and acceptance. But (that) does not mean anything goes under any circumstances," Wiener said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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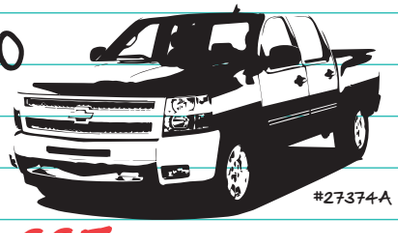

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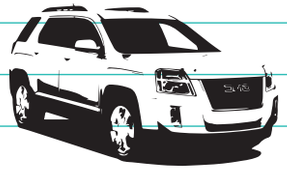

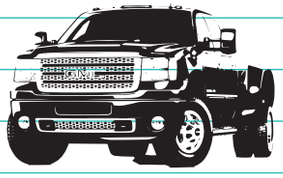

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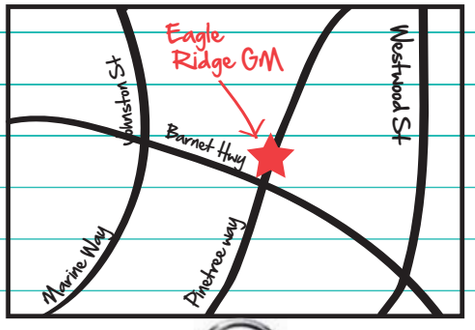

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Air travel

WestJet customers may get mobile entertainment

WestJet Airlines plans to test a new entertainment system next year that will allow passengers to use their tablets, computers and smart phones to access in-flight television and connect to the Internet, CEO Gregg Saretsky said Tuesday.

The new system could eventually lead the Calgary-based airline to do away with seat-back systems and shed weight from each aircraft.

Saretsky said the new system would improve the passenger experience because content would be beamed to personal devices, giving passengers the ability to select what they watch.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Research in Motion

Analyst gives BB10 improved odds

A prominent tech analyst is giving Research In Motion's new operating system a small but improved chance of success in the competitive smartphone market when it launches in early 2013.

Analyst Peter Misek of New York-based Jeffries & Company said Tuesday that he's still giving the BlackBerry 10 operating system only a 20 per cent to 30 per cent probability of success.

But that's an improvement on his previous assessment of 10 per cent to 20 per cent chance of success — a change in opinion that he attributed to surprisingly strong support among some wireless carriers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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OIL $86.75 US (-$2.53)

GOLD $1,723.60 US (-$10.80)

Natural gas: $3.84 US (+12¢)
Dow Jones: 12,788.51 (-7.45)

Rogue UBS trader gets 7-year sentence

London trial. 'There is a strong streak of the gambler in you,' judge tells man who lost $2.2B

A rogue trader who lost $2.2 billion US in bad deals at Swiss bank UBS was sentenced to seven years in prison Tuesday after being convicted in what prosecutors called the biggest fraud case in U.K. banking history.

Ghanaian-born Kweku Adoboli, 32, exceeded his trading limits and failed to cover his losses, allegedly faking records to hide his tracks at the bank's London office. At one point, Adoboli risked running losses of up to $12 billion US.

"There is a strong streak of the gambler in you," Judge Brian Keith told Adoboli. "You were arrogant to think the bank's rules for traders did not apply to you."

Adoboli wiped away tears as Keith handed down his sentence.

A conviction for fraud carries a maximum jail term of 10 years. The 10-person jury at Southwark Crown Court in London found Adoboli guilty of two counts of fraud and innocent of four other false accounting charges.

Kweku Adoboli arrives at Southwark Crown Court in London on Nov. 15. On Tuesday, the former UBS trader was found guilty of two counts of fraud. KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adoboli ran into trouble dealing in exchange-traded funds, complex financial products that track stocks, bonds and commodities. Adoboli admitted the losses, but said he was pressured by staff to take risks. He also testified last month that he had been trying to help UBS survive after it amassed losses of $52 billion during the 2007-2008 global financial crisis.

"There were times we thought there was no way the organization would survive," said Adoboli, who joined UBS as a trainee in 2003 and rose quickly to become a senior trader. "I grew up with UBS. I felt very loyal to UBS."

Det. Chief Insp. Perry Stokes of City of London Police, who led the investigation of Adoboli, had a different view, believing the trader's motive was "to increase his bonus, his status, his job prospects and his ego."

"Adoboli was a sophisticated fraudster," Stokes said. "He was one of the most accomplished fraudsters that I've seen in my time investigating serious fraud." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

$12B

At one point, former UBS trader Kweku Adoboli risked running losses of up to $12 billion US.

Sponsorship. Hockeyville is latest casualty of NHL lockout

Kraft Canada cancelled its popular Hockeyville program Tuesday, a victim of the protracted National Hockey League lockout that is seeing sponsors as well as fans grow weary.

Kraft said it would give $1 million to Hockey Canada affiliated minor hockey associations instead of the annual competition that rewards Canadian communities for their involvement in their local arenas.

Ken Wong, a marketing professor at Queen's University, said the decision was the latest sign that the NHL and its brand are in trouble.

"What I'm hearing in both the media and the person on the street is a growing resentment about (the lockout). It is OK if fans are resentful in a sense because that means they are emotionally attached, but now it is getting to the point of who cares," Wong said. "And when it gets to who cares, that's when a brand has big trouble because it says now you've lost your relevance."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bribery charges laid against key players in U.K. media scandal

Andy Coulson, former chief communications adviser to British Prime Minister David Cameron, leaves court Aug. 16 after appearing on phone hacking charges. On Tuesday, he and four other people were charged with bribery in the newest twist in Britain's high-profile media scandal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Two former confidants of Britain's prime minister have been charged with conspiring to pay public officials in exchange for stories and information — the latest development in the country's establishment-shaking scandal over media malfeasance.

Britain's Crown Prosecution Services said Tuesday that former tabloid editors Andy Coulson and Rebekah Brooks were among five people being charged with conspiracy to commit misconduct in public office.

Prosecutors said that Brooks, a neighbour, close friend, and political ally of Prime Minister David Cameron, conspired with journalist John Kay to funnel as much as $160,000 to Ministry of Defence employee Bettina Jordan Barber in return for a stream of stories that were published in Rupert Murdoch's The Sun newspaper.

In a statement, the prosecutors alleged that Coulson, who until last year served as Cameron's top press aide, conspired with journalist Clive Goodman to pay officials for access to a royal phone directory known as the Green Book.

The charges stem from the phone hacking scandal that erupted last year at Murdoch's News of the World tabloid, which Brooks and Coulson used to edit before she took a job as chief executive of News International and he went to work for the government.

The scandal exploded after it was revealed that News of the World routinely journalists hacked phones and paid bribes to win scoops.

The scale of wrongdoing was staggering; ruthless reporters violated the privacy of some 600 victims, from powerful ministers to well-known celebrities and even crime victims.

The pair has in the past repeatedly denied any wrongdoing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prior charges

- Andy Coulson and Rebekah Brooks already face charges in relation to phone hacking; in July prosecutors charged the pair with conspiring to intercept the communications of hundreds of people between 2000 and 2006.
- Brooks faces separate charges of obstruction of justice relating to her alleged attempts to hide evidence from police.

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ON THE ORIGIN OF MIDLIFE CRISES

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

There's more evidence to prove that homo sapiens is descended from apes.

According to a study involving 500 great apes published in the, ahem, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, chimpanzees and orangutans experience a midlife crisis, just like us.

It's just more difficult to tell, as an ape with angst is unlikely to purchase a Porsche.

I knew it was hereditary! For all we know, it's as universal as life itself: Birds do it, bees do it, even educated fleas … if you're alive, you know the exact moment when you're over the hill.

Monkey business

Realizing you're over the hill by 35 is not great news if you live in a zoo, because you can expect to live to 50. That's at least 15 years of same old, same old: monkey chow three times a day, children banging on the glass while their parents take flash photos, and Bonzo over there trying to horn in on your harem.

For humans, it's traditionally 45-55. Chimps turn into chumps around 27 or 28 and orangutans get the memo at about 35.

That's not great news if you live in a zoo, because you can expect to live to 50. That's at least 15 years of same old, same old: monkey chow three times a day, children banging on the glass while their parents take flash photos, and Bonzo over there trying to horn in on your harem.

Of course, this could be more of a comment on the apes' handlers than on the apes themselves, as they were asked to fill out the forms documenting the general mood of their apes, the joy their charges gained from socializing and how would they feel if they had to be an ape for a week.

After a very bad day of putting up with banana breath and monkeyshines, it's only human for a handler to project his or her feelings on the nearest living being, even if said being is more interested in another banana than anything else.

Whatever, the good news is that it gets better.

Just when Bonzo's grinning mug makes Cheetah want to throw his feces, he begins to realize that three squares ain't so bad. After all, he could still be stuck in some jungle in Botswana, dodging lions and poachers, using a stick to root for termites.

This is roughly analogous to the process of acceptance in humans.

If we survive our midlife crises without pitching our feces around the office or getting caught surfing NSFW on the Internet, we can look forward to increasing happiness that reaches its peak around 70.

Of course, there are good reasons old guys are happy. They get there early before the lineups. Plus they get the seniors' discount.

The bottom line: If you're feeling like the pack has passed you by, it has less to do with your sorry circumstances and more to do with your hormonal imbalance.

Just hang on.

Primate Prime Time is about to begin.

I'm not monkeying around — apes experience a midlife crisis, too. IAN WALDIE/GETTY IMAGES

Royals' site causes security concerns

SAC FAYE STORER/MOD/WWW.DUKEANDUCHESSOFCAMBRIDGE.ORG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tea-d off

Duke and duchess revamp website

This is an undated handout photo issued by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's website on Tuesday of Britain's Prince William making a cup of tea while working as a helicopter search-and-rescue pilot at RAF Valley on Anglesey, Wales.

Many of the exclusive pictures that gave an insight into the life of the flight lieutenant in Wales at his day job pilot had to be taken down hours after they were posted due to security concerns.

The pictures offered a rare look into the typical day in the life for Prince William in his work flying RAF Sea King helicopters from their base at RAF Valley on Anglesey, north Wales — from planning and preparing for any emergency callout to resting with his colleagues during downtime.

But the images also included unclassified user names, passwords and computer screens. Britain's Ministry of Defence said in a statement Tuesday that passwords and user names were reset as a precaution and that the photos were reissued.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shift work

24 hrs

The latest post on the website detailed Prince William's typical schedule of a 24-hour shift as a pilot.

When duty doesn't call

- The site reveals that Call of Duty is a favourite among Prince Will and his friends.
- On Wednesday even more photos will be posted — this time by the Duchess — of the trip she and Will took to Asia in September.
- Will's current tour will end by fall 2013, and at that time he is set to decide if he wants to stay on for a few more years.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Are you afraid Canada could fall off the "fiscal cliff" along with the U.S.?

Twitter

@VIAwesome: This "Beachcombers at 40" book from @Harbour_Publish is pretty much mandatory reading for British Columbians: http://ow.ly/frSrC

@nburgwin: Saw a man rocking a @freethechildren shirt while I was wearing the one I got while volunteering for #WeDay #Vancouver. Instant friends.

@CopsnComics: Heading over to pay respects to #CstAdrianOliver It's early, but his family deserves it and so much more. Please come join us.

@biff_sweetwater: I'm hunting for cool #AdventureTime paraphernalia across Vancouver. Any ideas where to look? besides Golden Age

metro

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The long awaited screen adaptation of The Life of Pi finally arrives in theatres this weekend. HANDOUT

Ocean's raw power inspires, creates cinematic awe in Pi

New release. Life of Pi joins a long list of films who have used the beauty and the beast of the blue as a wild backdrop

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Joseph Conrad wrote of the ocean's awesome power: "The sea has never been friendly to man."

Less eloquent is this quote from Beauty Queens by Libba Bray: "You can't believe how bleeding scary the sea is! There's, like, whales and storms and s—t!"

Not to mention killer whales, giant waves and even H-bomb mutated giant octopuses!

The ocean and its power has been challenging cinematic sailors for decades.

From the early screen adaptations of Moby Dick to the crazy sea monsters of 1950s B-movies to this weekend's The Life of Pi, based on the megahit novel by Yann Martel, the ocean has provided a wet and wild backdrop for Hollywood.

Pi's story of a boy set adrift on the ocean in a lifeboat with only a tiger for a companion is a coming-of-age story that uses the sea as a metaphor. Most films are more literal.

The giant wave that capsizes the ship in The Poseidon Adventure was no metaphor, it was a terrifying display of the ocean's power, even if it was filmed using a 21 foot 6 inch long miniature ship in a 300 by 350 foot water tank on a Hollywood stage.

Filmmakers have often looked to sea creatures for inspiration. Everything from LOTR: Fellowship of the Ring to Sharktopus features fantasy monsters unleashed by the deep. One of the best-known B-movies of the 1950s is It Came From Beneath the Sea, the story of a giant octopus awakened by the radiation from H-bomb tests.

The film was so low budget, special effects wizard Ray Harryhausen cut corners by building his octopus model with six rather than the usual eight tentacles. To cover his cheat, he posed the creature so viewers couldn't count the arms.

Finally, Orca, the best known of the killer whale movies, shows a much more real threat.

Or does it?

The joke is that killer whales aren't all that dangerous — to humans anyway.

"There has never been a substantiated case of an orca killing a man," wrote Outside magazine's Tim Cahill, "despite the 1977 movie Orca, in which a killer whale seeks revenge on Richard Harris by eating all his co-stars. The movie was so silly, unscientific and unbelievable that one critic suggested Harris fight a duel to the death with his agent for getting him the role."

Life of Pi

Life of Pi is a fantasy adventure novel by Yann Martel published in 2001.

- **Background.** The main character, Piscine Molitor "Pi" Patel, a young Indian boy, explores issues of spirituality and practicality.
- **Awards.** The book was chosen for CBC Radio's Canada Reads 2003. The year before, it won the Man Booker Prize for Fiction. Martel was only the third Canadian to ever win the literary legends nod. It dates back to 1969.

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Nicki Minaj Re-Upping with another release

New music. Rapper, pop-star talks about second CD's re-release, American Idol and working with Mariah Carey (sort of)

Nicki Minaj, the rapper who has had much success on the pop charts with songs like Starships and Super Bass, says the re-release of her sophomore album will be nostalgic for her early fans.

"The feel of the re-release is kind of like my first sound, like the mixtapes," she said of Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded — The Re-Up, out Tuesday.

The re-release comes seven months after Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard charts. That album features pop, dance, R&B, reggae and rap sounds. It's a far stretch from when Minaj kicked off her career as a sexed-up street rapper, signed by Lil Wayne in 2009 after she released three buzzed-about mixtapes. Her official debut, Pink Friday, is near double platinum and was nominated for a Grammy Award.

Quoted

"It sounds probably more hood in some ways, for a lack of a better word."

Nicki Minaj
Talking about the re-release of her album

But the 29-year-old says she's "back to basics" on her eight-track Re-Up, which features Lil Wayne, Tyga and some of Minaj's protégés.

"It sounds probably more hood in some ways, for a lack of a better word," she said.

Her pop fans won't be disappointed, though: There's also the Dr. Luke-produced, dance-flavoured Va Va Voom.

In a recent telephone interview, Minaj talked about her new music, artists she is mentoring and working (kind of) with Mariah Carey on American Idol.

What's the energy like on the re-release?
I studied a lot of the production side of this particular re-release. It was just important that the beats sounded a certain way. ... I was really able to step up the writing on it as well.

This album features some of your signed artists, Parker and Thomas Brinx. How's it feel to pay it forward?
It's exciting, because I think that I'm finally in a position to open doors for other people and it's a great feeling because I feel like they're so, so talented. Parker, he's actually from London and he's a writer, producer, singer ... and I'm going to be putting out music with him at the top of the year. ... Brinx was someone that I knew for a long time. I was rapping with him before I even got a deal and his skills have always been so exceptional. ... So I always felt like if I got an opportunity I would bring him along and now I have that opportunity.

You let cameras follow you for a three-part reality special on E! What was that like?
It's been fun because I think that my fans are getting a real kick out of it. I'm happy I did it. ... I don't really have an opinion on it. It was just a decision for me to show more of myself and I never really know how people are going to react to it, so I've started stepping back and away, and getting away from just over thinking it.

Were you hesitant about doing it?
Of course I was hesitant. I'm a very private person. I definitely thought about it a lot and then I went for it.

What are your favourite albums of the year?
I really have been enjoying all of the hip-hop albums that came out because I feel like hip-hop artists have been taking their careers into their own hands and I just want to give a salute to everyone because it's not easy. ... The music has been sort of changing and adding new sounds to the game and introducing new people to the game, so I would just give a big nod to hip-hop.

Is working as a judge on American Idol what you thought it would be like?
No. ... They're very long days and that's the biggest thing I didn't really expect. ... I'm used to being able to handle my business at any time, and when it's American Idol, sometimes we're in one place for eight hours judging people and I can't go to my BlackBerry every five minutes like I'm used to. So that kind of slows my business down and that is something that I never could have foreseen.

How are you and Mariah Carey, another new judge on Idol, getting along?
(Click.) THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nicki Minaj is releasing Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded — The Re-Up on Tuesday. EVAN AGOSTINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Out of the closet and on to Broadway

Music. R. Kelly reveals he is working to bring his Trapped in the Closet series to the stage

R. Kelly is working on a Broadway adaptation of Trapped in the Closet. MARK J. TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Is Broadway ready for Twan, Sylvester, Pimp Lucius and "the package?"

R. Kelly thinks so — and says he's working to bring the wacky characters and plotlines in his even wackier Trapped in the Closet series to the Great White Way.

The superstar announced Monday night that he's had an offer to bring the cult classic to the stage, and he may even be in some performances.

"To transform it into a Broadway version, that's what I'm working on," he told a packed house at the Sunshine Theater, where he unveiled the latest chapters of Trapped in the Closet, which will debut on the IFC channel on Friday.

Kelly gave no other details about a possible Broadway adaptation of the wildly popular video opera. It got its start from a stirring series of songs Kelly debuted in 2005, which ended with a cliffhanger. The songs captured so much attention that Kelly made an over-the-top video series about it that just got crazier and crazier as he added more chapters.

Kelly has often referred to Trapped as an alien, and on Monday, he said: "I'm glad to be one of the astronauts to take this thing to the unknown."

He thanked the enthusiastic crowd for accepting the series, and admitted that he always wanted to act.

"Somehow, I landed Trapped in the Closet from being silly."

He also joked about the ridiculous nature of the series.

"I'm just having a lot of fun. I don't have a job, so I sit in the studio all day and think of stuff to do and this is just something stupid I've done that's been successful for me," he said. "I'm having a lot of fun with it."

The latest chapters introduce a few new faces, and like the others series, ends with a cliffhanger. While it's taken Kelly five years to add these latest chapters, Kelly says he won't take as long to produce more.

"I want everybody to know I've got 85 chapters of Trapped in the Closet waiting in the studio for y'all," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The show, we call it — is going to exceed every chapter that you have ever seen."

R. Kelly
Talking about Trapped in the Closet.

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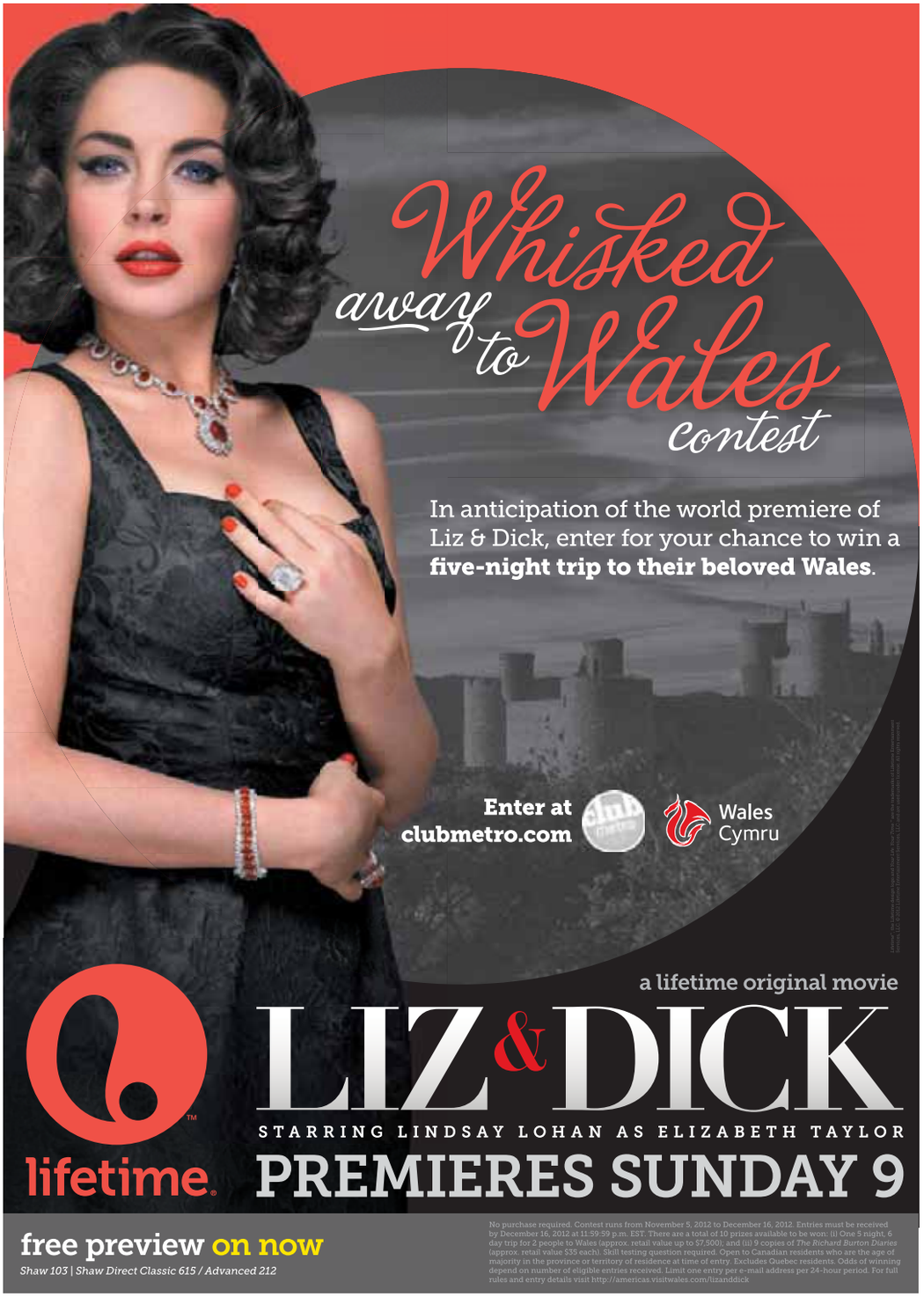
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Reviews

Red Dawn

Starring. Chris Hemsworth, Adrianne Palicki

Director. Dan Bradley

The original Red Dawn was such a product of the Cold War paranoia that remaking it seems doomed for failure. Spokane, Wash., is the target of an invasion that leaves a group of students in the surrounding hills launching guerilla-style assaults. A cyber weapon knocks out communications, ensuring that nothing modern is going to creep into this do-over that follows the original's plot points to a T. The cast are likeable and some of the action sequences are thrilling. But changing the invaders from Chinese to North Korean in post-production leaves gaps in the story and does little to boost the inanity of the plot. **IAN GORMELY**

Reviews

Life Of Pi

Starring. Suraj Sharma

Director. Ang Lee

Based on Yann Martel's megahit 2001 novel, Life of Pi stars Suraj Sharma as Pi Patel, a 16-year-old boy set adrift on a lifeboat after the freighter his family was taking from India to a new life in Canada sinks. His companion is Richard Parker, a Bengal tiger, and refugee from the Patel family zoo. The metaphorical and introspective story is complimented by many startlingly beautiful images and a spiritual undertow. Despite drifting off course from time to time with some ill advised magic realism and some repetition, Lee for the most part steers the story into safe, comforting waters.
IAN GORMELY

Reviews

Rise of the Guardians

Starring. Alec Baldwin, Hugh Jackman

Director. Peter Ramsey

A wacky adventure that casts legendary characters like Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny in some sort of superhero squad, Rise of the Guardians may be kitschy, but the storyline never quite gels amidst its frenetic, plentiful 3D-action.

While the tale of these icons defending the innocence of adolescents from the Bogeyman seems earnest enough, the film feels like a forced renovation on famous folklore for today's toddlers.
STEVE GOW

Reviews

The Silver Linings Playbook

Starring. Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence

Director. David O. Russell

Like his previous The Fighter, The Silver Linings Playbook is a conventional genre film (in this case a rom-com) pumped up with shrill, melodramatic acting. The goal is to win Oscars, and while Jennifer Lawrence may get there for her manic-depressive-pixie-dream girl, Bradley Cooper — as the bipolar object of her affections — is out of his depth. The film's mixture of screaming hyper-realism and trite narrative contrivances does grow slightly more palatable as it goes along, but the overall effect is still unappetizing.
STEVE GOW

Vancouver

Scotiabank Theatre
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:40-10:35

Vancouver Aquarium 4D Experience Theatre
The Great Salmon Run 4D Experience (STC) Fri-Thu 11:15-12:30-1:45-3-4:15

North Shore

Esplanade 6
Red Dawn (PG) Wed-Thu 7-9:40

Park & Tilford
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed-Thu 6:30-9:45

Richmond

SilverCity Riverport
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:35-10:35 Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:50-6:25-7:10-9:45-10:30 Mon 12:40-3:55-6:30-7:10-9:50-10:25 Tue 12:30-3:50-6:25-7:10-9:45-10:30 Wed-Thu 12:40-3:55-6:30-7:10-9:50-10:25
Rise of the Guardians (G) Wed-Thu 12:45
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Wed-Thu 3:10-5:35-8:05-10:35
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Wed-Thu 1:25-4:20-7:15-10:10

Burnaby

Dolphin Cinemas
Skyfall (PG) Fri 4-6:50-9:40 Sat-Mon 1:15-4-6:50-9:40 Tue-Thu 4-6:50-9:40
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 4:30-7:05-9:30 Sat-Mon 1:45-4:30-7:05-9:30 Tue-Thu 4:30-7:05-9:30

SilverCity Metropolis
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed-Thu 1:15-4:25-7:25-10:35
Red Dawn (PG) Wed-Thu 12:55-3:15-5:35-7:50-10:25
Rise of the Guardians (G) Wed-Thu 12:20
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Wed 2:45-5:25-7:55-10:20 Thu 2:45-5:25-7:55-10:15

New West/ Coquitlam

SilverCity Coquitlam
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:30-10:25
Red Dawn (PG) Wed-Thu 1-3:20-5:40-8:05-10:30
Rise of the Guardians (G) Wed-Thu 12:40
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Wed-Thu 3-5:20-7:45-10:10
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Wed-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:05

Surrey/White Rock/ Langley

Strawberry Hill Grande
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed 1-4-7:05-10:05
Rise of the Guardians (G) Wed 12:20
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Wed 3:15-5:45-8:15-10:40

Studio 12 Guildford
Life of Pi 3D (G) , Wed-Thu 5:25-8:30
Red Dawn (PG) , Wed-Thu 6-8:55
Rise of the Guardians (G) , Wed-Thu 5:15
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) , Wed-Thu 7:50

Rialto
Life of Pi (G) Wed-Thu 7-9:25

Colossus Langley
Life of Pi 3D (G) Wed-Thu 4-7:25-10:25
Red Dawn (PG) Wed-Thu 4:30-7:30-10:40
Rise of the Guardians (G) Wed-Thu 3:55
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Wed-Thu 6:55-9:30
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Wed-Thu 3:40-7:15-10:15

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Florida death row inmate may be involved in killing of O.J. Simpson's ex-wife: Documentary

My Brother the Serial Killer. Clues may link man to 1994 murder

O.J Simpson leaving the courthouse for a lunch break in Santa Monica in 1997. FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES

A documentary about an inmate on Florida's death row says the convicted killer might have been involved in the murder of O.J. Simpson's ex-wife and her friend.

The Investigation Discovery show, My Brother the Serial Killer, will air Wednesday.

The doc is a look at Glen Rogers, who was convicted by a Florida jury in 1997 for killing a woman.

Rogers was also convicted of murder in California and is a suspect in homicides in several other states.

Rogers, who is from Hamilton, Ohio, met Nicole Brown Simpson in 1994 when he was living in Southern California, his family says in the documentary.

A criminal profiler in the film says he received paintings by Rogers with clues possibly linking him to the 1994 murders of Simpson's ex-wife and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

Simpson was accused in those killings, but the so-called "trial of the century" in Los Angeles ended with his acquittal in 1995.

Simpson never testified at the criminal trial, but memorably demonstrated in court that a glove found near the slaying scene did not fit his hand. He testified at length in a wrongful death trial that led a Los Angeles civil court jury in 1997 to find him liable for damages in the case.

Much of the film is narrated by Rogers' brother, Clay Rogers, who used to rob homes with Glen Rogers as a teen, but in 1993 called police on his brother after finding a body at the family's Kentucky cabin.

Clay Rogers said that in 1994, his brother told him about meeting Nicole Brown Simpson.

"They've got money, they're well off and I'm taking her down," Clay Rogers recalls Glen Rogers saying.

Other family members also said Glen Rogers talked about meeting Simpson's ex-wife.

In a statement, Goldman's sister criticized the new documentary.

"I am appalled at the level of irresponsibility demonstrated by the network and the producers of this so-called documentary," Kim Goldman said. "This is the first time we are hearing about this story, and considering that their 'main character,' Glen Rogers, confessed to stabbing my brother and Nicole to death, you would think we would be in the loop."

Simpson is currently serving a prison sentence in Nevada after being convicted in 2008 of leading five men, including two with guns, in a September 2007 confrontation with two sports memorabilia dealers and a middleman at a Las Vegas casino-hotel.

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Furtado's farewell to 2012 with NYE bash

Niagara Falls. Canadian singer talks latest album while reflecting on the past year

ANNE BRODIE
scene@metronews.ca

Nelly Furtado is set to rock. GETTY IMAGES

Nelly Furtado will bid 2012 farewell and ring in 2013 by headlining Entertainment Tonight Canada's fourth annual New Year's Eve bash at Niagara Falls.

The show caps a busy time for Furtado — it follows the release of her latest album, recording with David Frost and Andre Bocelli and preparing for a Canadian tour launching in her hometown of Victoria on Jan. 8.

Congratulations on the New Year's Eve show. Why did you want to do it?
Last year, I had the pleasure of watching it on TV and I thought, "Wow, what a fun party" so I put it out there on some level, and the timing is really good with my tour with Hedley and the Dragonettes. I'm actually really excited about it.

As the headliner, you'll be onstage at midnight. Who are you going to kiss?
Well, my husband, but I don't want to do that on television, so I'll dance with wild abandon so people will forget that moment.

I'll be busy singing, but I'll be watching the other people kissing.

New Year's is time to party but also time to reflect. What are you grateful for these days?
I'm grateful to be Canadian, to live in a country with so many freedoms and liberty and peace, the ability to walk down the street and not worry about violence and I'm really grateful to be ambassador for Free the Children. It's remarkably fulfilling for me and I meet pretty inspiring people.

Then you're touring Canada for The Spirit Indestructible. In the dead of winter!
Isn't that funny — a Canadian tour in dead of winter? I'm a true Canadian!

I'm kind of excited to think that, it has a ring to it. Guaranteed we'll be stuck in the snow.

The Spirit Indestructible mixes musical influences and languages. It's so rich.
I think it's kind of creative rain, like what I had writing in Spanish.

It was very fulfilling and almost like an English drought. I had nothing to say in English for two or three years and one day the rain came down and hallelujah! Lord only knows what I'll do next.

It's been a rush of adrenaline and a creative high. I'm recording a follow-up in Spanish and a follow-up in English and Spanish.

Why did you draw inspiration from looking back to your early music?
I think the best songs look backward. Think how nostalgic Tragically Hip's Phantom Power is.

It makes you feel great. Bryan Adams' Summer of 69. It's truly reliving a moment sonically and if you can do that with music, you can time travel. It's fun for the listener and the creator.

Will your nine year old daughter Nevis be at the Falls show?
Every kid loves staying up till midnight. It's one of the greatest joys of the holidays!

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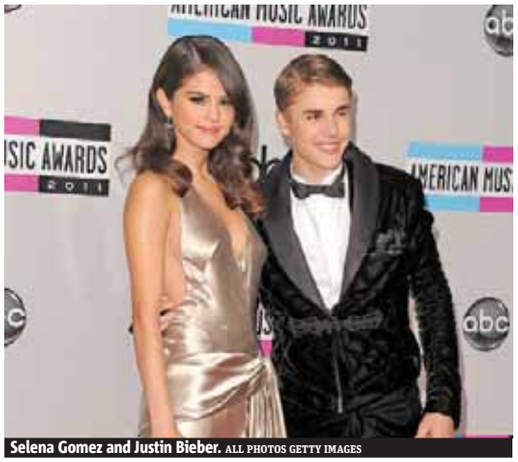

Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Gomez and Bieber caught cuddling after AMAs

It's getting tough to keep track of where Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez are in their breaking up and making up.

After a fiery, argument-filled dinner this weekend that ended with Gomez storming off, the pair apparently reunited after the American Music Awards Sunday night to celebrate Bieber's wins, according to Us Weekly.

Gomez and Bieber hit up a private party hosted by Bieber's manager, sticking to a hidden table in the back room with plenty of security around as they snuck in a few kisses, a source reveals, adding that they were, "dancing on each other. They seemed to be in great spirits and were clearly enjoying their time together."

They reportedly left together through a back exit at around 2:30 a.m.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Rihanna's fans (hostages) finally released from her tour

THE WORD
Katarina Matsson
scene@metronews.ca

Monday night was Ri-Ri's final show in New York, finishing off a week of mayhem at 35,000 feet. Metro has been by her side for seven crazy days.

Back up by 24 hours: Prior to Monday's show in London, Rihanna was at the Westfield Shopping mall in Stratford (built just before the Olympic Games), to set the Christmas light display ablaze. Rumour has it she got $793,000 to show up, but there's no confirmation yet. There, Rihanna holds the closest she has gotten to a press conference.

Fast-forward five hours and we're at the venue: The Forum in London's Kentish Town area.

Rihanna enters on time (almost), which might have something to do with the fact that Jay-Z is livestreaming the gig. The star puts on her best performance since Stockholm, despite technical problems.

At the after-party, she's nowhere to be seen, but the backing band are pleased.

"It helps not being four hours late," one mutters.

At 3 a.m., the buses leave the hotel for the airport. A mere six hours after that, we're on the plane to New York.

Wood shoots down pregnancy rumours

Newlywed Evan Rachel Wood is combatting pregnancy rumours after she was photographed this week in L.A. grabbing her stomach and wearing a baggy poncho while grocery shopping with husband Jamie Bell.

The speculation is unfounded, though, the actress insists.

"Sorry to disappoint. But no baby on the way here," Wood posted to Twitter after the photos hit gossip sites.

Evan Rachel Wood

The pair quietly tied the knot three weeks ago.

Twitter

@Rosie
Ready for my post heart attack cardio workout ... Starting not to hate it ... A huge plus

@ABFoundation
Canada is lovely. Canadians are lovely.

@EmmaBunton
I've been up so long feels like lunch time, hungry!

@prattprattpratt
A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down? But it doesn't help the diabetes. Think Poppins! You can't afford to lose another child.

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London Christmas Markets
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Europe 15-Day Tour — from $1772
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USA

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Air + 4 Nights
from $340
INCLUDES accom on the Strip.

Anaheim Family Special
Air + 3 Nights — from $288[0]
INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. ADD Disneyland Resort 3-Day *1-Park Per Day* Ticket from $211/adult, $197/child (ages 3-9).

Palm Springs
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $369
INCLUDES downtown Palm Springs accom near attractions.

Scottsdale Air + 3 Nights — from $699
INCLUDES all-suite accom. BONUS daily breakfast included. ADD Grand Canyon tour via Sedona from $159.

New York Air + 3 Nights — from $814
INCLUDES Manhattan accom. UPGRADE to 4-star accom from $33 per night. ADD Empire State Building entry from $21.

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Panorama
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INCLUDES luxury ski accom between the Panoramic Ski Village and Fairmont Hot Springs Ski resorts and 2-day lift ticket.

Sun Peaks
3 Nights + 2-Day Lift Pass — from $374 pp
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Silver Star
3 Nights + 2-Day Lift Pass — from $424 pp
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Whistler
4 Nights + 3-Day Lift Pass — from $609 pp
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Hawaii Island Hopper
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Florida
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Asia

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Shanghai Air + 6 Nights — from $1229
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Philippines Air + 7 Nights — from $1589
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Vacations

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Disney's Magic Europe

Starting June, 2013, the Disney Magic cruise ship sails to new ports in Turkey and Italy. Disney Cruise Line partners with local tourist companies to deliver unique family oriented Port Adventures. These pre-booked excursions include activities for the whole family. The Magic will have four, seven, and 12 days sailings to the Mediterranean this summer.

STORY AND PHOTOS: KATHY BUCKWORTH
life@metronews.ca

Turkey

A scavenger hunt in St. John Basilica has guests following clues and finding treasures to help an archaeologist (actor) solve a puzzle, while touring this ancient church, home to St. John the Apostle's burial spot. The hunt continues in the ancient Roman city of Ephesus, where groups can speak with a real archeologist to learn the art of a "dig" and look for treasure. A lunch tour features Grecian gowns for guests to wear as they eat typical Roman food, meet Cleopatra and judge an epic battle between two gladiators. Disney gives parents the opportunity to shop in Sirince, while kids are given a lesson on how to make typical glass bead bracelets or necklaces. A trip to the traditional Turkish Bath is also organized.

Rome

Every Disney Mediterranean cruise stops in Rome, and most cruisers want to hit "the big five." The Vatican (museum), St. Peter's Basilica, the Coliseum, the Pantheon and the Trevi Fountain. There are a variety of port excursions to choose for these. Other Port Adventures include the Gallerie Borghese and Teatro del Burattino. Unique to Disney, a puppet show in English delights the kids while parents grab 45 minutes of shopping (or a quick gelato) at the nearby Spanish Steps. Kids are supervised by youth counsellors from the ship; parents are welcome to stay. An adult-only activity is offered at the ArtStudio Café to create mosaic art under the direction of one of Rome's premier artists, while enjoying wine, local cheese and cured meats.

Venice

Venice is the only overnight stop on the 12-day cruise. Developed for kids, Venetian mask making is proving to be popular for families. Guidance is provided by professional mask makers as guests paint and decorate a unique souvenir. The Canottieri Bucintoro rowing club will take guests aged 16 and over for a unique three hour opportunity to learn how to row like a Gondolier in the waters of Venice. Participants are awarded a certificate in "voga veneta", as well as prosecco and snacks. Venice's most famous landmark, the Doge's Palace, is made available for a private tour after hours, and in true Disney style, a special reception at the end of the tour is hosted by Disney Princesses, who come ashore from the ship.

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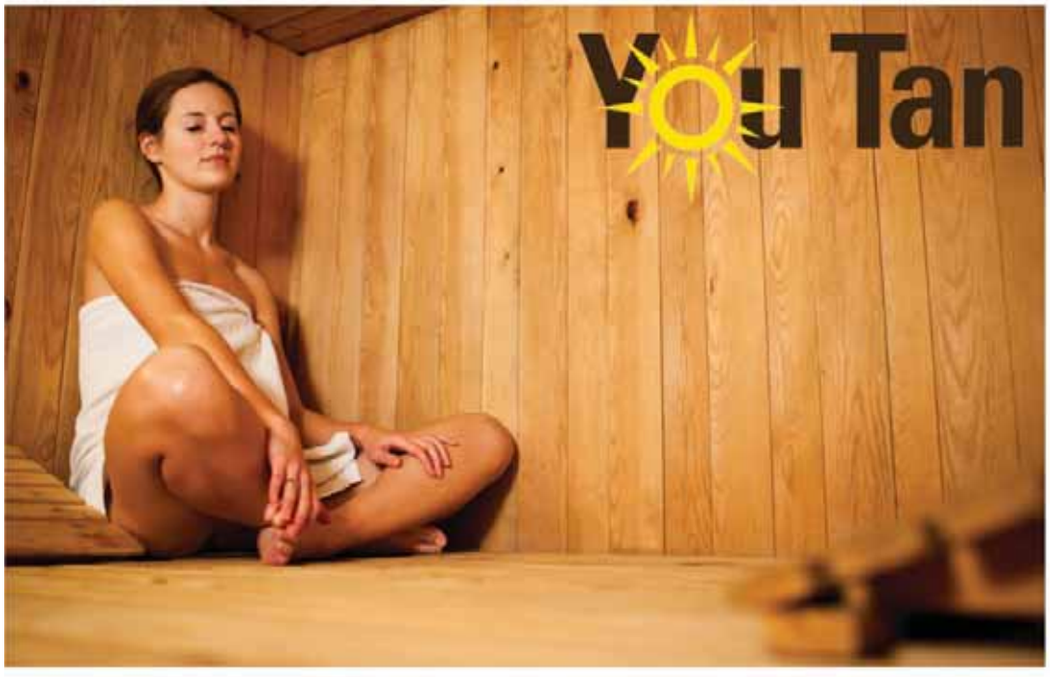

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A weekend in Mexico City

Capital. You have two days in one of the world's largest cities. We have the plan

REBECCA FINKEL
life@metronews.ca

Mexico City is like a map of the human brain: a simmering, complex, ever-changing storehouse of history, art, fashion and food. At 923 square kilometres and 20 million people, you could spend weeks just getting acquainted, but with cheaper fares now available, it's possible to enjoy this fascinating city in shorter increments.

Saturday

A good place to start is the Museum of Anthropology, where you'll get a sense of the country's ancient culture and mythology. With jet-lag working in your favour, head over early to beat the crowds, and then wander among edifices of ancient temples, handmade gold and turquoise jewelry and the original Stone of the Sun, a.k.a. the Aztec Calendar.

After learning what's come before, it's time to plunge into modern Mexico. Head to the Zocalo, the bustling plaza in the heart of historic downtown, and stop into the National Palace to see Diego Rivera's rustic yet bitingly political murals. Spend a quiet moment in the Metropolitan Cathedral before lunch at a rooftop restaurant overlooking the square — and the excavation of an ancient temple found during a dig to lay the electrical system.

After a brief siesta, cap off your day with shopping, dinner and nightlife in the hip Condessa and adjoining La Roma neighbourhoods. There, you'll find a mixture of tourist spots and local shops.

The zocalo THINKSTOCK

Street food THINKSTOCK

Sunday

Start your day in Coyoacan, a quaint, relaxed neighbourhood and home to Casa Azul, where artists Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera lived from 1929 to 1954. Their passion is evident in both their lovingly preserved household and their exhibited works. But let's get real — you're there for the food.

A few blocks south of Casa Azul is the Mercado de Coyoacan: a massive indoor space where vendors sling some of the freshest (and cheapest) street fare in the city. Service is friendly but dizzyingly brisk — just belly up to a table, be brave and order. Don't miss Tostadas de Coyoacan, where shrimp or fish ceviche is piled atop delicately crisp tortillas.

Continue south to the Plaza del Coyocan to cool your tongue with a paleta (cream- or fruit-based popsicle) or to re-energize with a cappuccino. Just off the plaza is the Mercado Artisinal, where you can shop for local crafts and freshly-blended molé powder (which, unlike the fresh paste, can be smuggled home in your carry-on).

Check out La Ciudad. THINKSTOCK

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Roasted Vegetable Quiche offers a hint of delicious cheesy indulgence

Roasted Vegetable Quiche

This recipe serves eight. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This simple, colourful quiche is jammed with seasonal vegetables and has just enough rich Gruyère to make it taste indulgent.

But the most indulgent aspect of this recipe is that it can be prepared and baked the day before your next family dinner, meaning you have one less dish to worry about on the day of.

Just pop it into a 300 F oven for 10 to 15 minutes to warm right before serving.

1. Heat the oven to 400 F.

2. In a large bowl, toss together the red pepper, red onion, sweet potato and zucchini. Add the olive oil, rosemary, salt and pepper, then stir to coat. Spread the mixture on a rimmed baking sheet and roast for 30 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender and beginning to brown. Remove the vegetables from the oven.

3. Reduce the heat to 350 F.

4. If it isn't already, fit the pie crust into a pie pan, crimping the edges as needed. Place the pie shell on a baking sheet and add the roasted vegetables. Top with the cheese.

5. In a medium bowl, whisk together the eggs and the half-and-half. Pour over the cheese and vegetables. Bake for 45 minutes, or until slightly puffed and set in the middle. Allow to cool slightly before serving.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 red bell pepper, cored and diced
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 small sweet potato, peeled and diced
- 1 medium zucchini, diced
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp minced fresh rosemary
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper
- 1 prepared raw 9-inch pie crust
- 3/4 cup shredded cheese
- 6 eggs
- 1 cup half-and-half

Drink of the Week

No. 11

We're not sure why it's called No. 11 but this drink combines bitters with honey and vanilla for a very unique combination.

- Dash Angostura bitters
- 1 bar spoon of honey syrup
- 2 oz vanilla bean bourbon

Stir the Angostura bitters, honey syrup and vanilla bean bourbon; strain into a glass with ice and garnish with three brandied cherries.

METRO WORLD NEWS/JOHN MCCARTHY, WHITEHALL BAR AND KITCHEN IN NEW YORK

Lemon Pecan Mousse Cake: Airy and delicately sweet treat

This recipe serves 12. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1. Heat the oven to 350 F. Lightly coat a 9-inch springform pan with baking spray.

2. In a food processor, combine the pecans, cake flour and 1/4 cup of the sugar. Process until finely ground. Transfer to a large bowl and set aside.

3. In bowl, use an electric mixer to beat together the egg yolks and another 1/4 cup sugar until thick and pale. Set aside.

4. In another clean bowl with a clean whisk, beat together the egg whites, salt and the remaining 1/4 cup sugar until thick and glossy stiff peaks form.

5. Gently fold the egg yolks and half of the egg whites into the pecan flour. Fold the remaining egg whites into the mixture until thoroughly but gently combined. Spoon the mixture into the prepared pan and bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted at the centre comes out clean. Set aside, in the pan, to cool completely.

Ingredients

For the pecan sponge cake:
- 5 oz (1 1/4 cups) pecans, toasted and cooled, plus a few more for garnish
- 1/2 cup sifted cake flour
- 3/4 cup sugar, divided
- 4 eggs, separated
- Pinch of salt

For the lemon mousse:
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2/3 cup lemon juice
- Zest of 2 lemons
- 2 1/2 cups heavy cream

6. While the cake is baking, begin the mousse. In a medium saucepan, whisk together the cornstarch and sugar, then add the eggs and whisk until smooth. Add the lemon juice and zest, then set over medium heat. Whisking constantly, bring the mixture to a boil; cook until it thickens. If there are any lumps, strain the mixture. Transfer to a large bowl and set aside to cool.

7. Once cake and mousse base are cool, in bowl, use an electric mixer to whip heavy cream to medium peaks. Fold half cream into the mousse base. When thoroughly combined, fold in the remaining whipped cream. Spoon mixture onto the cake. Garnish with toasted pecans and refrigerate at least 2 hours.

8. When ready to serve, run a paring knife around the edge of the pan and loosen the sides. Remove the sides of the springform pan and serve.

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To market, to market to land a new gig

Create your dream career. How to break into the marketing field without a business degree

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU
TalentEgg.ca

More than the degree, employers want to see that you can apply yourself creatively, so step up and show them something different. ISTOCK

"You're an artsie, you're an artsie, you're an artsie overjoyed…but you'll always be an artsie and you'll never be employed!"

Or so the chant goes. This was one of the playful taunts that would be hurled at us arts students back in university.

I studied political science and sociology in my undergrad and one question I always used to get from family and friends was, "What are you gonna do with that?"

Well, let's just say I turned it into a blossoming career (modesty aside) in communications and marketing for the non-profit sector. It's not quite the traditional or linear route, but is there ever such a thing in life?

I first broke into the industry back in 2009 with a winning combination of great timing, determination, and good ol' fashioned hard work.

Social media (now part and parcel of marketing and communications) was just beginning to blow up in the non-profit world and I somehow nabbed myself a social media internship at an international development organization. Since then, I've worked in communications and marketing positions with non-profits and businesses alike. So how do I do it even without the degree?

Hit the books

A lot of what I've learned has been self-taught. I hit the books and the blogs to learn about basic marketing principles and to keep up with the latest social media trends.

It's something that I haven't stopped doing since I entered the field. In the fast-paced technological world we live in today, it's essential to keep up with the latest trends to keep your edge.

Be a Jack of all trades and a master of one

Who ever said that this had to be an either/or option? I honestly believe that in today's world, it's not enough that you just specialize in one thing and one thing alone. You've got to have a wide and diverse set of skills to thrive in this dynamic and often uncertain economy.

That's why I continually build on my skill set, learning the basics of coding and Photoshop while exploring new tech tools available. Trust me, there is great value in this versatility and being someone that your employers can always count on ain't a bad thing!

Leverage that arts degree

I didn't go to business school and I don't have a marketing or communications degree, but my background as an arts student has equipped me with skills absolutely vital in this field. I've leveraged the analytical, research and communication skills that every arts student has mastered (or at least should have mastered) after four years of undergrad.

Network, network, network

When I first started, I networked like crazy. In fact, I still do and you should too. Attend industry events and connect with all kinds of professionals more experienced than you. Set up informational interviews to really immerse yourself in the field and extract as much knowledge and information from them as possible.

Dream it, be it

"Live and breathe the position you want to see yourself in and present yourself as such."
Justine Abigail Yu

Market yourself

What kind of marketer or communicator would you be if you couldn't even sell yourself, right? Build your personal brand and carve a niche for yourself. Find a way to set yourself apart from the rest of the crowd. I've done that by making a home for myself on the Internet and giving an alternative to that boring old text-based resumé.

Fake it 'til you make it

The rest is what I like to call faking it 'til you make it. For a while, you'll feel like a bit of a sham working in the field without the degree or experience (I know I did!), but trust me, that stuff is overrated. Live and breathe the position you want to see yourself in and present yourself as such. Learn the ropes, work relentlessly hard, make those connections and before you know it, you've broken into the industry and are probably rocking it without even realizing it.

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Make your first-meeting mark

Introduction ideas.
Acing the marketing interview is as easy as knowing your stuff and proving your potential

SAMANTHA SIM
TalentEgg.ca

Interviews can be a nerve-wracking event. I think most people can agree with that statement.

But they're especially stressful when it's your first time interviewing for a position in that industry. That is exactly how I felt this summer when I had an interview to work with the vice-president of marketing and communications at a board of trade.

Going into the interview with the following three tips in mind really helped me and, in the end, I landed the job!

Come prepared with ideas

This is true for job interviews in all industries, but extremely important for marketing positions. Researching the company's marketing initiatives and presenting skills you bring to the table that can help them with existing strategies — as well as having some new ideas — can set you apart from other candidates.

For example, from the little research I did on the board of trade's website, I discovered that they published a business trade magazine and used it as a strategy to increase brand recognition and attract potential clients. Recognizing this, I brainstormed a few ideas for stories I thought would interest entrepreneurs and presented them during the interview. I also highlighted my background in journalism and that I could help them with writing for future issues.

Social savvy

Before your interview, take a look at the organization's social media presence.

- Know which sites they have profiles on, which ones they don't and what type of content they tweet, post, etc. Don't be afraid to make suggestions if you think they could benefit from posting new styles of content or having a presence on other social networks.
- For example, before my interview, I took a quick look on the organization's website and it was brought to my attention that they didn't have a large social media presence. During the interview, I talked about my experience with different platforms and mentioned ideas I had for the business to connect with professionals through LinkedIn and Twitter.
- It turned out that one of the things on their summer to-do list was to increase the organization's presence on LinkedIn. One of the reasons they hired me was because I had suggested marketing strategies with that platform.

Bring your most creative concepts to any interview in order to show your commitment to the company's success.
ISTOCK

Have real-life examples and/or bring a portfolio

It's great to have all these grand ideas, but it's even more important to give an employer the impression you can pull them off. A large part of my interview was spent talking about previous experiences in marketing, telling specific stories or examples of successes, as well as not so successful attempts and what I had learned from them.

If you have a portfolio, bring it. Even if you don't think the work showcased in your portfolio relates to what the employer is looking for, still show it to them.

One strategy I use when I run into this situation is that I will show the interviewer my portfolio and tell them, "I know this job won't involve a lot of writing, but I wanted to show you my published work so you can see that when I set out to do something, I do the best work possible." This demonstrates to the interviewer that you'll bring a solid level of commitment and effort to the position.

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CFL

Lulay thinks his shoulder won't need surgery

B.C. Lions quarterback Travis Lulay admitted his throwing shoulder still isn't 100 per cent, but said he would be "shocked" if it required off-season surgery.

Lulay played one quarter of football in five weeks prior to Sunday's Western Final — a 34-29 loss to the Calgary Stampeders — due to a sore throwing shoulder.

"The way it's felt lately, no, I'd be absolutely shocked if we find anything further that would lead me to believe that it would need to be cleaned up," he told reporters Tuesday.

Lulay completed 33 of his 46 passes against Calgary, but was unable to stretch the field out. His longest completion of the day was just 19 yards.

"I honestly think I'm close and just in terms of how it feels, I don't think it held me back at all," he said.

"Obviously you can say whatever you want about rust and all those things heading into that football game but … physically I felt good."

Lulay completed his fourth season with the Lions and in the CFL. He earned league and Grey Cup most outstanding player recognition last year, and was the team's selection for the MOP this season.

Earlier this month, Lulay was named a West Division all-star for the second consecutive year.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

CFL

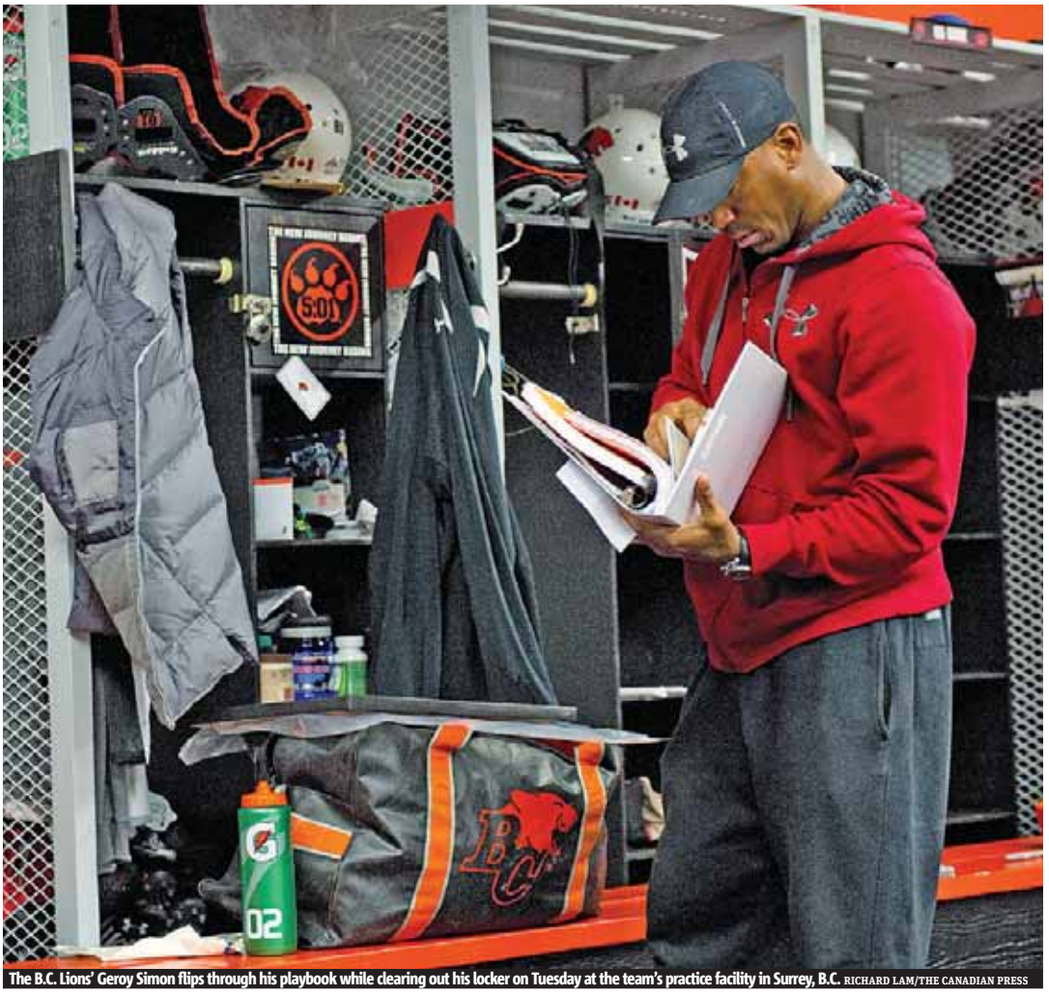
Six SFU Clan soccer members earn recognition

The SFU Clan men's soccer team secured its ticket to the NCAA Division II Final Four on Saturday, and received six individual accolades earlier this week.

Four players — Michael Winter, Ryan Dhillon, Matt Besuschko and Carlo Basso — were all named to the first All-Region team, while Quante Abbot Hill Smith and Helge Neumann were named to the second All-Region Team.

"I am very happy for the players that won these awards," said Clan head coach Alan Koch in a statement released by the university's athletics department.

"We have athletes from different years and positions winning awards, which represents the depth we have this season." METRO



The B.C. Lions' Geroy Simon flips through his playbook while clearing out his locker on Tuesday at the team's practice facility in Surrey, B.C. RICHARD LAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Simon expects to be back with Lions

CFL. B.C.'s 37-year-old star slotback believes he's still a premier player

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

He's been the face of the B.C. Lions franchise for nearly a decade, but now it appears Geroy Simon's playing career is at a crossroads.

Simon, the Lions 37-year-old star slotback and the greatest receiver in CFL history, discussed his future with the media Tuesday, as players cleaned out their lockers at the Surrey practice facility.

The Lions lost the Western Final 34-29 to the Calgary Stampeders Sunday.

"I expect to be here and I'll keep thinking that way until they tell me otherwise," said Simon, who has been with the Lions for 12 of his 14 years in the CFL.

Simon etched his name in CFL history in the first game of the season on June 29, setting the league record for most career receiving yards, surpassing the old mark of 15,153 held by Milt Stegall.

That night, Simon had 105 yards receiving. His receiving totals now include 15,787 yards. However, he also missed five games due to separate hamstring injuries, and statistically he had his worst season since 2002.

Despite his age and injuries, Simon, who in March signed a contract extension with B.C. through the 2013 season, believes he can still play at a high level.

"My goal is to come in and work hard this off-season and be the best receiver in the league again," he said. "I still believe I can do that. That's just what I believe and that's what I'm going to prove."

He reiterated his commitment to the Lions, but didn't count out moving on if his services are no longer needed.

"If there comes a point when they don't want me and I still want to play, obviously you've got to look at other options," he said.

"But like I said, I'm 100 per cent committed to being a B.C. Lion for next year."

Changes to the Lions' roster was a topic of discussion Tuesday — head coach Mike Benevides said that was "inevitable" — but right now it's unclear if that includes Simon.

Benevides was asked during his press conference if there was a chance Simon would play for another team next season.

"He's going to play football regardless so I'm not sure exactly where the answer is to that one," Benevides said.

"I think it's one of those things where he's going to have to see if he still wants to play football after the emotions of this all settled down and he's spent some time with his family," he added.

"And then we'll all get together and we'll have a discussion about it and re-evaluate it."

Quoted

"If there comes a point when they don't want me and I still want to play, obviously you've got to look at other options."

B.C. Lions slotback Geroy Simon on Tuesday

4 SPORTS

CFL. Stamps cowboy-up for arrival in Toronto

Calgary offensive lineman Obby Khan has been to three Grey Cups in the past five seasons, so he considers himself something along the lines of the older, wiser, elderly statesman of his unit.

That's why, when the Stampeders landed in Toronto Tuesday evening, Khan was among the players who elected to dress "cowboy" instead of suit and tie.

"Are you kidding, we're representing Western Canada," said Khan, the six-foot-four, 270-pounder who might have been the biggest cowboy on his team Tuesday night.

"You get a chance to dress up like this once a year if you are lucky, so why not take advantage and have some fun. And it's natural for me, since I am the best-dressed, best-looking (offensive lineman) here."

The "older and wiser" reference is Khan's own phrasing. At 32, the Ottawa native is the oldest O-lineman Calgary will suit up for the 100th Grey Cup Sunday against the Argos.

Stampeders lineman Obby Khan arrives in Toronto on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Khan fell short in the 2011 Grey Cup with Winnipeg, and suffered a leg injury in 2007 with the Bombers that kept him out of the game.

So when Stampeders coach John Hufnagel gave his club the option to dress western or suit and tie for the trip to Toronto, Khan wasn't about to let the fun pass him by.

"I never cowboyed up before," Khan said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

No horse play on Sunday?

- According to reports in Calgary Tuesday, Calgary's biggest cheerleader — the touchdown horse — may not be allowed to perform his touchdown run at Rogers Centre in Toronto during Sunday's game.
- The horse will be in Toronto, though, and is set to be paraded through the lobby of the Royal York hotel Thursday morning, recapturing a moment originated by Calgarians at the Royal York in 1948. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CFL. Fans show Argos love at downtown rally

As the Calgary Stampeders slogged through traffic to their hotel from Pearson Airport to begin the hectic business of Grey Cup week, the Toronto Argonauts were having a love-in with their fans at a downtown Toronto rally.

About 2,000, many wearing the Argonauts' Double Blue jersey, cheered and shouted "Ricky, Ricky" for star quarterback Ricky Ray at Yonge-Dundas Square on Tuesday evening.

The Argonauts will face the Stampeders in the CFL championship game Sunday at Rogers Centre.

"You're always trying to make them proud," said Ray, the veteran who was acquired from Edmonton last winter in a bid to get the Argonauts into the 100th Grey Cup on home turf. "True fans have stuck with us all year long and we're getting some new fans too who are really catching on to the excitement we've been able to capture late in the season.

"This is what we play for — these people and this city — and we're just looking forward to playing for the championship." THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Ticats making move to Guelph during stadium construction

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats will play CFL home games next season at the University of Guelph while their new stadium is being built, says team president Scott Mitchell.

The university stadium only has 7,500 seats currently and Mitchell couldn't say yet exactly how many might be added next year, but he said there should be enough to accommodate all season-ticket holders in some fashion.

"I think any facility we were looking at, obviously, for 2013 was going to require some temporary facilities and infrastructure," Mitchell said Tuesday.

A 24,000-seat field is being built on the site of Ivor Wynne Stadium. THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. Lions fans Ray Brittain, left, and his wife Jenny pose for a photograph at their home in New Westminster, B.C., on Monday. Regardless of whether their home team is in the final, CFL fans are universally game for a celebration come Grey Cup time. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL fans know how to throw a party

Grey Cup. Regardless of what team they support, fans around the country plan to celebrate on Sunday

With her beloved B.C. Lions out of the running for Sunday's Grey Cup, Jenny Brittain won't have a chance to roar her support for the hometown team — but she still plans to party come game day.

Brittain and her husband of 49 years, Ray, are co-founders of the Lion Backers Fan Club and are fervent boosters of the team. The great-grandmother joined others during the season to bring a variety of edible treats to the players, from fresh fruit and cakes to cookies and baked loaves.

In the past, Brittain said they have joined a select few for a Grey Cup potluck comprising comfort-food favourites like chili and potato salad.

While still unsure of whether she'll be watching from home or elsewhere on Sunday, she plans to have crackers, cream cheese and pepper jelly at the ready to root for the Toronto Argonauts to take the title on home turf against the Calgary Stampeders.

"With the Grey Cup being there, I think they deserve to win," she said in an interview from her home in New Westminster, B.C.

The 76-year-old was there to witness the Lions hoist the league championship trophy at home last year, and said the celebrations and atmosphere surrounding the Grey Cup are reminiscent of another high-profile sporting event staged in the city.

"It's like when we had the Olympics here, it's the same feeling," Brittain said.

"You've got something big going and you're involved in it. Your whole province should be involved in this. And it just gives you — I don't know. It makes you want to cheer."

The Montreal Alouettes may have missed a shot at a Grey Cup berth, but supporter Claude Martel still hopes to bring his customary pre-game celebration to Toronto — not to mention a cooler filled with sausages, patties and fine cuts of meat. The computer programmer and father of two is hoping to try to find a spot near the Rogers Centre on Sunday to organize a tailgate, not unlike the gatherings he helped stage prior to Alouettes home games. This year, the 50-year-old also travelled to Hamilton and Winnipeg to support the team.

Regardless of which team they support, Martel said there's a sense of camaraderie among all the league's fans during the Grey Cup, pointing as an example to the contingent of Calgary fans who travel and organize free breakfasts.

"It's a big brotherhood. There's no rivalry here," he said. "It's all CFL fans." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weekly awards

- Slotback Chad Owens has reached another high point in his stellar season after winning the CFL offensive player of the week award for his role in leading the Toronto Argonauts to a berth in the 100th Grey Cup.
- Calgary running back Jon Cornish was named top Canadian after helping the Stampeders advance to the Grey Cup with a 34-29 win over B.C. in the West final.
- Lions kicker Paul McCallum took special teams honours. He was a perfect 5-for-5 on field goal attempts and converted 2-of-2 extra points.
- Argos linebacker Marcus Ball was named the defensive player of the week.

Quoted

"One of the things I really like about the CFL and especially the fanbase is everyone is loyal to their own team; but everyone, for the most part, plays really well in the sandbox." Lions fan Keith Whittier, who will head to Toronto to take part in various festivities leading up to the championship final

MLS. Beckham vague about plans for his future

David Beckham meets with reporters on Tuesday in Carson, Calif.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

David Beckham will announce the next stop in his football career near the end of the year. Until then, he's focusing on winning one more trophy with the Los Angeles Galaxy.

Beckham said on Tuesday he has "exciting opportunities on the table" to continue playing after he leaves the Galaxy next month, capping a six-season U.S. career with Los Angeles' second straight appearance in the MLS Cup final on Dec. 1.

"I still feel that I have something left in me as a player," Beckham said at the Galaxy training complex. "I still feel like I have one more challenge in me as a player. Even at 37 years old, I still can play at a high level. Where that will be yet, I haven't decided.

"Right now my focus is on the final," he added. "Once that's out of the way, we have an (exhibition) tour to deal with and then it's Christmas, which we always spend in London, so I'll be there and I'll make the decision then."

The English midfielder wasn't specific about where he might end up next, deflecting questions about every destination from Australia and China to France and Britain. While discussing his future in the most oblique terms, Beckham only confirmed he won't move to New York or any other MLS team.

"There are options, and I'm very lucky at my age to have options," Beckham said.

After two strong MLS seasons largely free from major injuries, Beckham says he's leaving Los Angeles only because he reached every goal he set for himself in his landmark move stateside in 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

76ers rise above Raptors

The Philadelphia 76ers' Jason Richardson shoots over the Toronto Raptors' Amir Johnson on Tuesday in Philadelphia. Richardson scored six of his 21 points late in the fourth quarter and the 76ers rallied to beat the Raptors 106-98. MATT SLOCUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guess who's back? Jays bring in Gibbons

MLB. Crazy week in Toronto takes another wild turn with hiring of former manager

Newly reinstated Blue Jays manager John Gibbons speaks to members of the media in Toronto on Tuesday.
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

In one of the most hectic 24-hour periods in team history, the Toronto Blue Jays saved the biggest surprise for last.

Hot on the heels of having their mammoth 12-player trade with the Miami Marlins approved by Major League Baseball and finalizing a contract with controversial free-agent outfielder Melky Cabrera, the Blue Jays unexpectedly named John Gibbons as their new manager Tuesday.

Gibbons returns to the Toronto dugout after managing the Blue Jays from 2004 to 2008.

"This came as a big surprise to me," Gibbons said at a Rogers Centre press conference. "It's really a thrill and an honour to be back. I never would have guessed that this could happen."

Gibbons, who had a 305-305 record in his first stint with the Blue Jays, says he has some unfinished business to take care of in a city starved for a winner.

"We did a lot of good things while I was here, but nothing great," he said. "I think something good is going to happen here."

Gibbons, 50, became manager of the Blue Jays in 2004 when then-general manager J.P. Ricciardi fired Carlos Tosca. He was eventually fired in June 2008 and replaced by Cito Gaston, who had led the team to World Series championships in 1992 and 1993.

"It has happened fast," Gibbons said of being hired for a second stint. "I am thrilled to be back. It's always good to see some old friendly faces."

And with the player moves the team made in the last week, he's excited to get a second chance.

"There are too many good baseball people who are running things and putting it together," Gibbons said. "It's going to happen, so why not be there when it does?"

Those people are led by general manager Alex Anthopoulos, who stunned the baseball world last week when word leaked that the Blue Jays and Marlins had agreed to a trade that saw Toronto acquire all-star shortstop Jose Reyes and pitchers Josh Johnson and Mark Buehrle.

He followed that up by signing Cabrera to a two-year deal worth $16 million US.

"The front office has put together a legitimate, contending-type team," said Gibbons, who ranks third all-time in victories with Toronto. "Now it's the manager's job and the coaching staff's job to pull it together as a team and get the most out of these guys. That's our No. 1 job."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"From my standpoint, I don't have any stronger belief that this is the right guy to lead this team."

Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos, on the John Gibbons hiring

Clubhouse controversy

John Gibbons' best year in Toronto came in 2006, when the club went 87-75 to finish second in the AL East — the same season he had well-publicized blowups with players Shea Hillenbrand and Ted Lilly.

- Gibbons said he regrets the physical altercation with Hillenbrand, but Anthopoulos defended him and said if you can't play for Gibbons then you can't play for too many guys.
- "I've always rooted for this organization. They gave me my first shot to be a big-league coach and a big-league manager," Gibbons said.

NHL. Players expected to table proposal on Wednesday

The ball is back in the hands of the NHL Players' Association.

With collective bargaining talks set to resume at the NHL head office on Wednesday morning, the union is expected to table a new proposal. It comes on the heels of a 90-minute meeting on Monday evening, in which the league asked NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr to put together a comprehensive offer that includes how to split revenue and rules governing player contracts.

"We've never heard a full proposal from them," said deputy commissioner Bill Daly. "We've heard their proposal on economics; they're still suggesting that they're moving in our direction on economics. Until we know exactly where they stand on economics ... we think it's all tied together.

"We'd like to hear it all together."

In addition to revenue split and player contract rules, the sides need to work out how to pay for the damage caused by the lockout. In the NHLPA's most recent offer, which was tabled Nov. 7, the union asked for the players' share of revenues to jump in fixed increments of 1.75 per cent each season starting from the $1.88 billion they took in last year.

That proposal didn't include the mechanism that would be used to account for the reduced revenue generated during a shortened 2012-13 season.

The NHL would prefer a proposal based on a percentage of annual revenue.

"If their proposal continues to be a guaranteed player amount, sitting here on Nov. 19, that's not a proposal that would ever be acceptable to us," said Daly. "If that happens to be where we are, we will be a long way apart."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More games under the axe?

The meeting on Wednesday comes at the same time the league is expected to cancel more games.

- According to sources, the NHL has decided to wipe the first two weeks of December off the schedule, which will bring the total lost during the lockout to more than 400 games.

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All-inclusive lease finance offer based on a new 2012 Civic and CR-V models available only through Honda Canada Finance Inc. O.A.C. Finance example based on a new 2012 Civic 4D LX 5MT model FB2E4CEC and a 36 month finance term available only through Honda Canada Finance Inc. O.A.C. $19,235 at 0.99% per annum equals $477.48 per month for 36 months. Freight and PDI of $1,695 included. Cost of borrowing is $1,676.28. Down payment of $6,000, first monthly payment, environmental fees and $0 security deposit due at finance inception. Offer includes freight and PDI. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer trade may be required. Offer cannot be combined with other lease or finance offers. Lease example based on a new 2012 Civic DX 5MT model FB3E4CEA and a 36 month lease term available only through Honda Canada Finance Inc. O.A.C. $16,485 at 0.99% per annum equals $277.78 per month for 36 months. Freight and PDI of $1,695 included. Down payment of $3,526.07, first monthly payment, environmental fees and $0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $10,330.07. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 72,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer trade may be required. $1,000 Honda Dollars available on all new 2012 Civic and CR-V models. Honda Dollars will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. **MSRP is $27,630 / $16,485 including freight and PDI of $1,640 / $1,495 based on a new 2012 CR-V LX 2WD model RM3KSCES / 2012 Civic DX 5MT 4WD model FB2E2CEX. PPSA, license, insurance, taxes, and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may be necessary on certain vehicles. "Civic is the #1 selling passenger car in Canada 14 years running based on the December 2011 sales results. €Based on R. L. Polk Canada Inc. data October YTD 2012 registrations in British Columbia. Ω The Drive a Honda, Win a Honda contest is open to all residents of British Columbia and the Yukon Territories who are the age of majority (nineteen years) or older at the time of entry. The contest begins at 8:00 am PST on Thursday, November 1 and ends on Friday, November 30 at 6:00 pm PST. Enter the contest by visiting one of the participating BC Honda dealers and test driving a new Honda vehicle of your choice during their hours of operation. Limit one (1) entry per person. No purchase necessary. For full contest rules and regulations, visit www.bchonda.com. ^©™ Offers valid from November 1st through 30th, 2012 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for British Columbia residents at BC Honda Dealers locations. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Terms and conditions apply. Visit www.bchonda.com or see your Honda retailer for full details.

Be amazed by 2013 Avalon

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Engine

Unchanged is the 268-horsepower 3.5-litre V6, although Toyota has tweaked the engine and installed an updated six-speed transaxle (with a quicker-shifting sport model selector) for improved fuel economy. Although you may have heard about an Avalon hybrid, that model is just destined for the U.S. right now.

The engine is a 3.5 litre V6 with 268 horse power.

2013 Toyota Avalon

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel drive, full-size entry level sedan
- **Engines (hp);.** 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (268),
- **Transmission.** Six speed automatic.
- **Base price (incl. destination).** $38,500-$40,500

Design

Overall, the look is more youthful and dramatic, especially the dual grille in front and the sweeping roofline that flows into the rear deck. More importantly, the Avalon now puts more distance between it and the smaller, less-luxury-oriented Camry from which it was spawned. This is a handsome car.

Suspension

The Avalon's suspension has also been beefed up with thicker anti-sway bars and stiffer springs for greater ride control. The electronic power steering system now has had some of its previous numbness dialed back. All of this is good news for a brand that has been previously criticized for its 1970s-era mushy handling traits.

Review. Lose the Lexus and save with the stylish new Avalon

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

As competent as the 2013 Avalon is, the car has traditionally walked a fine line between its spot as Toyota's top-level sedan and the entry-luxury Lexus ES that is a portal to Toyota's upmarket division.

That situation isn't likely to change for the 2013 model year with the arrival of the next-generation Avalon. Fortunately, however, the big sedan no longer dwells in the Camry's shadow, where it has performed in relative obscurity since its 1995 model-year arrival. The all-new edition receives more defining sheet metal courtesy of Toyota's Calty Design Research Division.

The Avalon's new and radically different sheet metal translates into a larger appearance, which is entirely illusionary, since the car is slightly thinner than the 2012 version.

The new Avalon rides on the same basic platform and maintains the same distance between the front and rear wheels, yet the additional use of high-strength steel has helped reduce overall heft by a claimed 55 kilograms.

There shouldn't be any criticism leveled at its redesigned interior with its concave-shaped dashboard that exudes luxury. Leather-covered seats with improved side bolstering are standard, as is a large and legible touch-screen panel. Add a total of 10 standard airbags to the mix and you almost have to wonder why anyone would head over to the Lexus store for their premium sedan fix.

Here in Canada, the Avalon will be available in two trim levels beginning with the XLE ($38,500), followed by the Limited, which costs about $40,500.

Most importantly, however, Toyota's flagship should appeal to a wider audience that has likely passed on previous versions for their general lack of personality and for those who actually like to drive. Not anymore.

The Avalon's dashboard is futuristic and luxurious.

The front view shows off the new dual grille.

By comparison

1 Chrysler 300
Base price: $34,500

2 Chevrolet Impala
Base price: $32,000 est.

3 Ford Taurus
Base price: $30,450

Are we going 'soft' on car quality?

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Look closely, the quality is in the detail. Cars from three or four decades ago have very different problems than today's vehicles. HANDOUT

Vehicle quality used to be easy to describe. A window crank falling off in your hand? That was bad quality. A window crank not falling off? That was good quality.

Now most cars have fewer and fewer defects from the factory. So how are we assessing vehicle quality in this modern era?

Well the fine people at J.D. Power and Associates — who have been measuring initial vehicles after 90 days of ownership, every year for the last 26 — have determined that we're getting "soft" when it comes to assessing quality.

By "soft" they mean that we're more concerned about how well things work, rather than whether they work or not, because, well, they almost always do work.

Dave Sargent is the vice-president at J.D. Power and Associates and heads up its Global Automotive practice. Last week, he spoke at the AutoTalk Canada conference in Toronto, and expounded about this evolution of quality perception.

He started his talk by noting that quality remains of paramount importance to consumers and that nothing else drives satisfaction, loyalty and image to the same degree.

He also noted that the customer's perception of what constitutes quality is constantly evolving and will continue to do so. For one thing, we get used to great quality, and move on to things that tick us off.

This has meant quality issues are bleeding into areas we normally thought of as design. Basically, poor design is now seen as poor quality and customers consider these design problems as being just as severe as defects.

And the area most affected by poor design and subsequent "soft" problems is the interface between driver and vehicle. The infotainment and inter-connected wonderland is now the new quality battleground.

According to Sargent, for the first time in the 26-year history of the study, owners report more problems related to audio, entertainment and navigation system than in any other vehicle area.

Speaking about the technological wonders coming in this area, Sargent had this to say: "Customers are excited. They are also confused and fearful. They need help."

The nature of the problems here are what's causing the confusion and fear. Take voice command for example, which has become the most-often-reported problem in the industry. If it doesn't work as you had hoped or expected, you have to live with it for the whole time you own the vehicle.

Your dealer could fix your window crank problem in one short visit. But he is often powerless to make your voice command system work to your satisfaction. And when this happens, it happens to every one of the units made, not just the ones where a line worker forgot to tighten the window crank.

Sargent believes dealerships could better support consumers in this area by doing a better job of explaining how these systems work during the delivery process. But he also noted another problem — consumers are becoming increasingly skeptical about the dealership's ability to handle today's complex vehicles.

Oh boy. Can't you just hear the automotive folks pining for the old days, when their major warranty problem was just loose nuts, and maybe a bit of rust.

A clean filter means a healthier car

Driving Force.
Change your vehicle's filters and breathe a little easier

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Clean air is always a must, especially when it comes to cars. Your vehicle contains air filters, which should be changed periodically to maintain your engine's health, as well as your own.

All engines use air filters, which remove dirt and particles before they can enter the combustion chamber. Most new cars also contain cabin filters, usually located in the dash behind the glove box, which clean the air in your heating and cooling system as it circulates.

"If you've left (the filter) for two years or more, it can become clogged," says Michael Minialoff, manager of automotive parts for Canadian Tire. "Not only do you not get effective heat, but your defroster won't work as well as it should, and ventilation will be compromised."

The filter handles fresh air that comes in through exterior vents, as well as that which recirculates from the cabin through the heating and air conditioning ducts.

"It's kind of shocking how much debris can end up in there," Minialoff says. "The air inside your vehicle can be up to six times dirtier than the air outside, with road dust, debris, pet hair, pollen, or anything that could be floating around. These are paper filters and they should be changed about once a year or every 24,000 kilometres."

Your engine also contains an air filter, and it's a very important one. Gasoline must mix with air before it will burn, and for every litre of fuel, your engine will use 10,000 to 12,000 litres of air. All of this air is filtered to prevent dirt from entering and possibly damaging the engine.

Engine filters used to be made primarily of paper and were often checked by holding them up to a light — if the light didn't shine through, the filter was clogged and needed replacement. Today's filters contain several types of materials. "This changes the opacity, so holding it up to a light really doesn't tell you anything," Minialoff says. "It should be changed following the recommended guidelines, either in your owner's manual or on the filter box."

Tips

- **Seats.** Some premium vehicles have air-conditioned seats. These may contain small filters, which should be changed when recommended.
- **Follow manual.** Replacing a cabin air filter isn't difficult and instructions can be found in your owner's manual or on the filter box.
- **Replace if need be.** Change your engine air filter when recommended: A dirty one will affect your fuel economy.

Air filters should be changed more frequently if you regularly drive on dusty roads, in stop-and-go traffic, travel only short distances when your engine doesn't fully warm up, or if you're pulling a trailer or hauling heavy loads.

Quoted

"If you left (the filter) for two years or more, it can become clogged."

Michael Minialoff of Canadian Tire
On the importance of replacing air filters.

A clogged up air filter can damage your vehicle and cost you money in the long-term. HANDOUT

Spot the difference: A new air filter will benefit your wallet and the performance of your car in the long-term. HANDOUT

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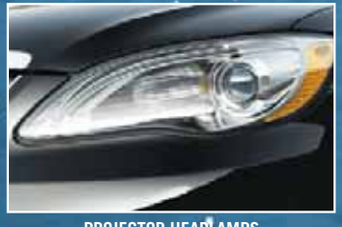

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8 To watch in 2014

Industry buzzwords such as 'efficiency' and 'technology' remain at the top of the want list for auto builders and buyers. But as the 2014 models move from concept to showrooms, it's clear that styling, creature comforts and power are also on the list. Below is a look at eight of the most anticipated cars coming to a dealership near you, and some reasons why enthusiasts can't wait to kick the tires.

TODD D BURLAGE
WheelbaseMedia.com

1

ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED BY WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Mazda 6

In a bold attempt to find a place in the ultra-competitive mid-size sedan market, this latest Mazda entry hopes to cut into a segment dominated by heavyweights such as the Toyota Camry, as well as recently redesigned models such as the Honda Accord, Nissan Altima and Ford Fusion.

A business split from the Ford Motor Company in 2010 puts pressure on Mazda to do it all by itself, and the initial reviews suggest the Mazda6 passes the performance test. It's also considered Mazda's most important entry since the Miata had its facelift in 2008.

Cadillac ELR

In an effort to take the "Caddy" nameplate into greener pastures, this plug-in hybrid is designed to target a wealthier demographic that wants efficiency without the claustrophobia of a shrunken hybrid compact.

The ELR is a stylish and sleek two-door coupe that carries the same platform and powertrain as the Chevrolet Volt, but provides more cabin space for added luxuries and comfort. Expected to debut late in 2013, the base price will list around $55,000, or about $13,000 more than the Volt.

2

3

Volkswagen Golf

In an ongoing effort to build buzz and appeal, VW believes its edgier Golf finally hits the mark. The seventh-generation entry of this German mainstay will reach North American showrooms in the first quarter of 2014 with a longer, wider and lower look than its predecessors, yet tip the scales 100 kilograms lighter.

Styling tweaks to the grille and a lower build have finally brought the Golf into the "now" generation and postured it to become competitive against the traditional segment killers. Will VW slash the price like it did with the highly successful Passat and Jetta models? We'll see.

8

Jaguar F-Type Roadster

From the moment rumours met production of the long-awaited return of a Jaguar roadster, potential popularity met reality with 2,000 pre-orders already in the books.

Jaguar expects to sell about 10,000 units back in the U.K. and a few thousand more in North America as it takes direct aim at the Porsche 911 and Mercedes-Benz SLK. The base model — expected to list at about $75,000 — will use a supercharged V6 engine rated at 340 horsepower. A higher output V6 and a V8 will also be offered.

Chevrolet Corvette

There are very few vehicle launches that tap more into the North American consciousness than a new 'Vette hitting the floor and the C7 shouldn't disappoint.

Specific changes for the 2014 model are being closely guarded in anticipation of a debut in early 2013. But in the looks department, expect the C7 to have a slightly slimmer build with a striking split-window treatment option similar to the old Sting Ray from exactly 60 years ago. Chevrolet has already released info on the new 6.2-litre LT1-designated V8 (pictured below). With 11.5:1 compression and direct fuel injection, expect about 450 horsepower and similar torque as the current 7.0-litre Corvette Z06 below 4,000 revs.

4

7

Chevrolet Impala

Finally, Chevrolet has put some pizzazz into what is best known as a police cruiser or a rental-car staple. Using a more refined interior and loads of fresh technology, the 10th-generation Impala will likely leave all its predecessors in the dust. A long way in the dust, actually.

Built on the same platform as the Cadillac XTS and the Buick LaCrosse, the Impala will offer three engine choices — the familiar 3.6-litre V6, a 2.5-litre four-cylinder and the 2.4-litre four-cylinder "eAssist" powerplant with a special electric motor/alternator that applies torque via its drive belt.

Porsche 918 Spyder

A Porsche sports-car hybrid? Sounds like blasphemy, but the new Spyder — at about $850,000 US — is apparently the successor to the mighty Carrera GT.

This high-tech machine will be powered by a V8 engine that Porsche promises will produce at least 500 horsepower, helping it reach 60 m.p.h (96 km/h) in barely three seconds with a top speed of 320 km/h. All of this while its two electric motors can make about 218 horsepower by themselves. The Spyder features a combined fuel consumption rating of about 78 miles per U.S. gallon when puttering around town, and when running on electric only, this next-gen Porsche carries a range of 20 kilometres at speeds up to 150 km/h.

6

5

Honda Accord Plug-In Hybrid

Launching an all-new Honda Accord sedan is one thing, but adding a plug-in hybrid version seems to skip a couple of steps on the evolutionary ladder.

While Honda's hybrid systems have typically been a step behind Toyota's, since the electric motors can't power the wheels all by themselves, the new Accord plug-in hybrid will catch up in one fell swoop with a non-hybrid version soon after in 2013. Honda's ace is improved engineering to a battery pack that will go about 15-20 kilometres in all-electric mode and offer a total driving range of more than 800 kilometres. At about $40,000, the hybrid will be the priciest of the Accord family, with the only real competitors being the Prius Plug-In and the Chevrolet Volt.

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Bank on the Borrego if you are chasing a 4x4 bargain

Second Gear. 2009 to 2011 Kia Borrego

HANDOUT

Kia's questionably-timed attempt to enter the large 4x4 SUV marketplace resulted in the Borrego—a full-sized, fully-featured sport-ute geared to families after affordable access to a premium, off-road ready driving experience. With three seating rows and feature content including heated seats, navigation, a sunroof, automatic climate control and a power tilt steering wheel, Borrego was admirably equipped relative to its price range. Despite earning much praise from a happy owners community, the model was cancelled after just 3 years on sale.

Common Issues

Have the underside inspected for signs of damage caused by possible careless off-roading, and have a Kia mechanic look for leaks from the transfer case, engine, transmission and rear differential. Also, confirm proper operation of the four-wheel drive system, making double sure it switches in and out of its various drive modes as expected and without any warning lights.

Ensure that any V8-powered model you're considering doesn't emit a rattling or ticking sound at idle, and that it doesn't smoke at start up. Inside, ensure the power tailgate and climate controls all work properly. Be sure to play with the navigation system, if so equipped, to make sure it's operating as expected. Some owners report that the unit may freeze up and require replacement.

Engine

Standard power came from a 3.8 litre, 276 horsepower V6, though a 337-horsepower, 4.6 litre V8 was available. All models got a five-speed automatic and four-wheel drive.

What Owners Like

Borrego's strong points include size, cargo carrying capacity, and interior flexibility. Overall performance and some high-end touches within the interior are also highly rated.

What Owners Dislike

Mandatory SUV-related fuel-consumption complaints aside, Borrego owners wished for easier access to the third row of seats, and a smoother ride.

Verdict

A Borrego that checks out mechanically and electronically should prove a more affordable alternative to a Ford Explorer or Honda Pilot. Opt for a model with as much of its warranty remaining as possible for extra peace of mind.

Let the pros ensure your safety this winter

Five top tips. Preparation and patience are key

Consider how many times during the holiday season you will get behind the wheel, with endless trips to pick up gifts, food, supplies and visiting loved ones. But despite the reputation of Canadians as cold weather warriors, winter driving can still be daunting for many of us. Add in unpredictable weather, slick roads and poor visibility and even the most confident drivers hesitate to turn the ignition.

Members of The Circle of Honour program — a dedicated group of active drivers — have maintained a clean driving record for 25 years or more and have logged more than eight billion accident-free kilometres on the road. That's enough kilometres to circle the earth 188,000 times. So here are five winter driving tips to keep you safe this season, courtesy of the Circle of Honour.

Prep for winter in the fall.
Be proactive and get your car serviced before the cold weather hits. Check your oil, washer fluid and brakes. Invest in a pair of tires specifically for winter driving. Make sure your battery is charged, confirm all lights are working, get quality windshield wipers and test the heating/cooling system.

Monitor the weather.
Winter weather can change on a dime, so take a minute to check the report before you hit the road. If there has been a recent snowfall, avoid side streets and shortcuts — those are the last places to see the snowplow. Also be cautious of black ice.

Drive safely with a clear view.
When you're clearing your car of snow, don't overlook the roof, hood and trunk. Snow can fly up and unexpectedly obscure visibility once you're on the road. Mirrors should always be wiped clear and headlights should be clean.

Always be prepared
Create an emergency kit containing non-perishable snacks, bottled water, maps, flashlight, blankets, toilet paper, de-icer, washer fluid and an extra windshield brush. Keep an extra shovel in the trunk as well — you'll be glad if you ever get caught needing it.

It's not a race.
Arriving safely should be your goal. Leave yourself extra time to reach your destination so you don't feel pressured to rush. Speed is one of the biggest causes of motor accidents. If you're a confident, safe driver, always remember that the other drivers may not be. **NEWS CANADA**

Be prepared and safe for days like this. NEWS CANADA

smart

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MORE STREET TO PLAY WITH.

European model shown

>> The 2013 smart fortwo: urban mobility redefined.

Even with its 2.69m frame the 2013 smart fortwo is surprisingly roomy, offering you all the space you need to enjoy the city limits. The smart fortwo offers outstanding parking with its nimble size, allowing effortless access to any spot. A tridion safety cell completes a tough, but agile frame made for urban driving. Visit your local smart Centre to test drive a 2013 smart fortwo today.

$99	0.9%	$16,861
per month[2]	Lease APR[2]	2013 smart pure total price[1]
Lease for 24 months[2]		$2,810 due at delivery[2]

Fees and taxes are extra.[1]

thesmartcityproject.ca

smart - a Daimler brand

Sales Inquiries 604-70-SMART (707-6278) smartvancouver.ca

smart Centre Vancouver	smart Centre Boundary	smart Centre North Shore	smart Centre Richmond	smart Centre Surrey
1395 West Broadway	1325 Boundary Road	1375 Marine Drive	5691 Parkwood Way	15508-104 Ave.
604-736-7411	604-639-3300	604-984-9351	604-278-7662	604-581-7662
#6276	#6278	#6277	#6279	#11013

©2012 smart Canada, a Division of Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc. Vehicle shown is the smart fortwo passion with optional equipment at an extra cost. [1]Total price is based on a smart fortwo pure, National MSRP of $14,400. Total price and down payment include charges of $2,060.48, consisting of freight/PDI of $1,395, dealer admin fee of $495, air-conditioning levy of $100, PPSA up to $50.48 and a $20.00 fee covering EHF tires, filters and batteries (taxes are extra). [2]Lease offer based on a new 2013 smart pure available only through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services on approved credit, for a limited time. Lease example is based on a 24-month term and a lease APR of 0.9% and an MSRP of $14,400. Monthly payment is $99 (excluding taxes) with 12,000 km/year allowance ($0.20/km for excess kilometers applies). Due on delivery is $2,410 down payment plus first month payment (plus taxes) for a total of $2810. Cost of borrowing is $175.51 for a total obligation of $5,360. Vehicle license, insurance, and registration are extra. Dealer may lease or finance for less. Offers may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. See your authorized Mercedes-Benz Vancouver dealer for details or call the Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Customer Care at 604-331-BENZ (2369). Offer ends November 30, 2012.

Parts Dept.

Whether it's a Christmas gift, a novelty birthday gift or just something for yourself, here are some ideas for unique automotive-inspired presents.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Feed from the big wheel

Here's the perfect accessory to add to your man (or woman) cave, or Garage Mahal. The tire bowl is an amazingly realistic reproduction of a custom wheel and tire combination and is ideal for serving and preserving your favorite snack foods. The tire's grippy-looking rubberized tread looks a bit over the top, while the chrome-look snap-on lid resembles an aftermarket alloy wheel. The container is 15 centimetres in diameter by 6.5-centimetres deep and it sells for $20 US from amazon.com and perpetualkid.com.

Give a dog a bone

The Craftsman Dog Bone is actually eight swivel-head wrenches in one (four at each end) and should save you plenty of aggravation during those times when you're working on your vehicle and can't seem to locate the right-sized socket. Sizes include 3/8, 7/16, 1/2, 9/16, 5/8, 11/16, 3/4, and 13/16 of an inch (metric sizes also available). The Dog Bone has also been designed so as not to round off the edges of bolts and nuts and it has a built-in 3.5-kilogram-strength magnet that can be used to attach nuts and bolts, oil pan drain plugs or any other metal objects. This item is available at most Sears stores, or online for $13 US. sears.com

New Ferrari - $2,800

When it comes to pedal cars, why should kids have all the fun? The Ferrari FXX Exclusive pedal go-cart is advertised by the manufacturer, Berg Toys, as being suitable for anyone from ages 5-99. In fact, this officially licensed Ferrari product is no toy, but is a four-wheel cycle vehicle with seven-speed gearing, front disc brakes, alloy wheels, an on-board computer to record top speed, distance travelled and lap times. So why spend $2,800 US on fitness equipment? Go to bergtoys.com for details.

Step right up...

If you're frequently loading your pickup with the tailgate down, especially a high-stepping 3/4-ton 4x4 long box, you likely find yourself struggling just to step into the box. If that's the case, you need the XD eXtreme Step Attachment. This all-steel product attaches to your trailer-hitch receiver and extends about 60 centimetres away from the bumper. The step is even large enough to be used as a seat. The XD eXtreme Step Attachment can be purchased for $120 US at inventivehitches.com/store.

ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE

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Every Certified Pre-Owned Mazda we sell comes with warranties and guarantees to ensure that you drive away fully satisfied in a quality vehicle that you can depend on.
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7-Year/140,000-Kilometre Limited Powertrain Warranty†
24-Hour Emergency Roadside Assistance
30-Day/3,000-Kilometre Exchange Privilege
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SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS
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†Coverage begins from the original new retail sale date and covers 7-years/140,000-kilometres, whichever comes first. ‡0.9% APR only for well qualified buyers; not all buyers will qualify. Amount of down payment and other factors may affect qualification. 0.9% APR available on all models and all qualifying model years (the 5 model years immediately preceding the date of this advertisement, or newer) for up to 24-month terms. Based on a representative example of $15,000 financed at 0.9% over 24 months equals monthly payments of $630.88 with $0 down payment, cost of borrowing is $141.03 with a total obligation of $15,141.03. Licence, insurance, taxes, down payment, and, where applicable, PPSA and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at time of purchase. Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offer subject to change without notice. Visit your participating dealer for complete details.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Life is good and about to get even better. You can't quite believe that? Well, you will when you begin to see that everything is going your way at last. Keeping a positive attitude is easy when so many positive things are happening.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
The atmosphere at work may be less than harmonious today but don't make a big deal of it. Some of your colleagues are going through difficulties at the moment but it isn't your fault, so don't take it to heart.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Why are you still hung up about what a certain person said? Why can't you let it go? Maybe it's because you recognize there was an element of truth in it. So what? You never claimed to be perfect.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If you allow too many thoughts to run through your head today, you will be easily confused. That, in turn, will lead to mistakes. Focus on the one thing that matters. More than one and you may mentally exhaust yourself.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
With the Sun beginning its transit of the most dynamic area of your chart, you honestly believe that all things are possible — and they are. Don't let anyone tell you that your dream is unattainable. They're wrong.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The harder you have worked in recent weeks, the more you will need to relax a bit now. Spend time with your family and loved ones and don't think you have to do everything yourself. You've done enough.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do what feels right to you today and don't worry in the slightest if other people disagree with you. They have no right to dictate what you should think, say or do — and you have a right to be yourself.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Make sure you keep a smile on your face over the next 24 hours. You have important matters to deal with and the burden you bear is considerable, but you'll bear it better if you think and look happy.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Everyone knows what you are capable of so you don't have to prove yourself in any way. Having said that, cosmic activity in your birth sign means you want to put on a show. Make it the best show.

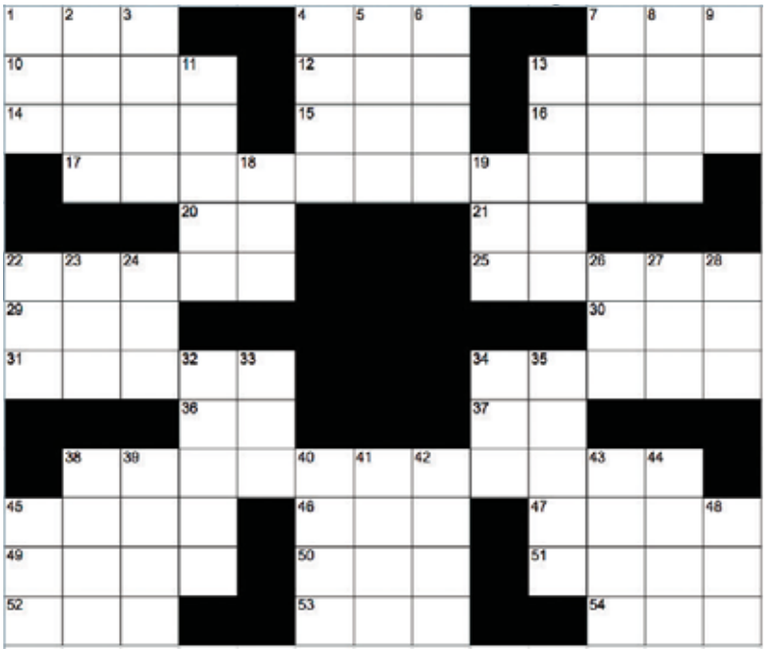
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The Sun's change of signs today will encourage you to think deeply about your life and its meaning. Some people may say it doesn't have meaning and that your existence is hollow. But they are wrong, and you know it.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Try not to take anything too seriously today. According to the planets, you need to lighten up a little and the best way to do that is in the company of some of your way out friends. They'll make you laugh.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The Sun's change of signs today will make you even more ambitious than usual, and that's good. However, your ambitions need to be tempered by the realization that causes always have consequences. Think before you act. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

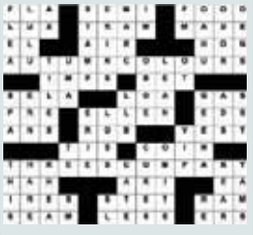
BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. Auto navigational device (abbr.)
4. Food scrap
7. Term of respect
10. Israeli airlines
12. Foot digit
13. E-mail request
14. Actress —– Flynn Boyle
15. Small amount
16. Operatic solo
17. "You Belong with Me" singer/songwriter (2 words)
20. Shoe width
21. Railway extension
22. Crown
25. Student assignment
29. Airport info.
30. Summer cooler
31. Ogles
34. Breakfast order
36. Model railroad gauge
37. Musical group: – Vogue
38. Praises
45. Alike
46. Poem
47. Spring flower
49. Chocolate cookie
50. Geese formation
51. Work for a living
52. Lair
53. Have dinner
54. Actor of Lethal Weapon movies

Down
1. Hair product
2. A flat area of ground
3. Gilbert of The Talk
4. Beetle Bailey's pooch
5. Lion sound
6. Turner and Knight
7. Slave
8. Name abbr.
9. Star of Stargate: SG-1 (init.)
11. Hen
13. Glides
18. Jamie — Curtis
19. Tiny
22. Sophia's husband on The Golden Girls
23. Prior to
24. Anger
26. Bag-like structure
27. "Much – About Nothing"
28. Japanese currency
32. —– and Juliet
33. Steep
34. Stinging insect
35. Little Orphan —–
38. Children's classic: The — Bears
39. Auspice
40. The — Boat
41. Brainstorm
42. Greet
43. British transport
44. Procreate
45. Grass
48. Weekend variety show (init.)

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

1			4		3			
6	9						4	7
	7			2		8		
	5		1	4				8
		7				6		
3				9	8		2	
		5		6			8	
9	4						6	5
			2		1			9

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	9	3	6	8	7	1	5	4
4	7	6	5	1	9	3	8	2
5	1	8	2	4	3	6	7	9
9	4	2	8	7	6	5	3	1
6	3	5	1	9	4	7	2	8
7	8	1	3	5	2	4	9	6
1	5	9	4	3	8	2	6	7
8	2	4	7	6	5	9	1	3
3	6	7	9	2	1	8	4	5

Today 8°/5° Showers 40%
Thursday 8°/7° Showers 40%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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0% FINANCING + UP TO **$8,500** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡ ON SELECTED MODELS

HWY: 5.2L/100 KM
CITY: 7.1L/100 KM

Limited model shown

2013 ELANTRA

GET UP TO **$1,750** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡ WITH **0%** FINANCING FOR 24 MONTHS

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$15,694**♦

ELANTRA L 6-SPEED MANUAL.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

2012 CANADIAN & NORTH AMERICAN CAR OF THE YEAR

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM
CITY: 7.8L/100 KM

SE with Tech. shown

2013 ELANTRA GT

GET UP TO **$1,675** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡ WITH **0%** FINANCING FOR 24 MONTHS

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$18,969**♦

ELANTRA GT GL 6-SPEED MANUAL.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

2013 AJAC BEST NEW SMALL CAR (OVER $21K)

HWY: 5.6L/100 KM
CITY: 8.7L/100 KM

Limited model shown

2013 SONATA

GET UP TO **$3,250** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡ WITH **0%** FINANCING FOR 24 MONTHS

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$22,314**♦

SONATA GL AUTO.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

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AWARDED THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING*
U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

HWY: 6.7L/100 KM
CITY: 10.1L/100 KM

Limited model shown

2013 SANTA FE

GET UP TO **$1,150** IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS‡ WITH **0%** FINANCING FOR 24 MONTHS

FRIENDS & FAMILY SELLING PRICE **$27,109**♦

SANTA FE 2.4L FWD AUTO.
DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

2013 AJAC BEST NEW SUV (OVER $35K)

5 YEAR WARRANTY 100,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY††

- 5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty
- 5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
- 5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty

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855 Automall Dr.
North Vancouver, 604-985-0055
D#6700

Murray Hyundai White Rock
3150 King George Highway
Surrey, 604-538-7022
D#30780

OpenRoad Hyundai
13171 Smallwood Place
Richmond, 604-606-9033
D#28516

Maple Ridge Hyundai
23213 Lougheed Highway
Maple Ridge, 604-467-3401
D#7356

Jim Pattison Hyundai Port Coquitlam
Unit B - 2385 Ottawa St.
Port Coquitlam, 604-552-1700
D#30242

Abbotsford Hyundai
30250 Automall Dr.
Abbotsford, 604-857-2622
D#9390

Langley Hyundai
19459 Langley Bypass
Surrey, 604-539-8549
D#30331

Mertin Hyundai
45753 Yale Rd.
Chilliwack, 604-702-1000
D#30337

Jim Pattison Hyundai Surrey
15365 Guildford Drive
North Surrey, 604-582-8118
D#10977

Destination Hyundai
445 Kingsway
Vancouver, 604-292-8188
D#31042